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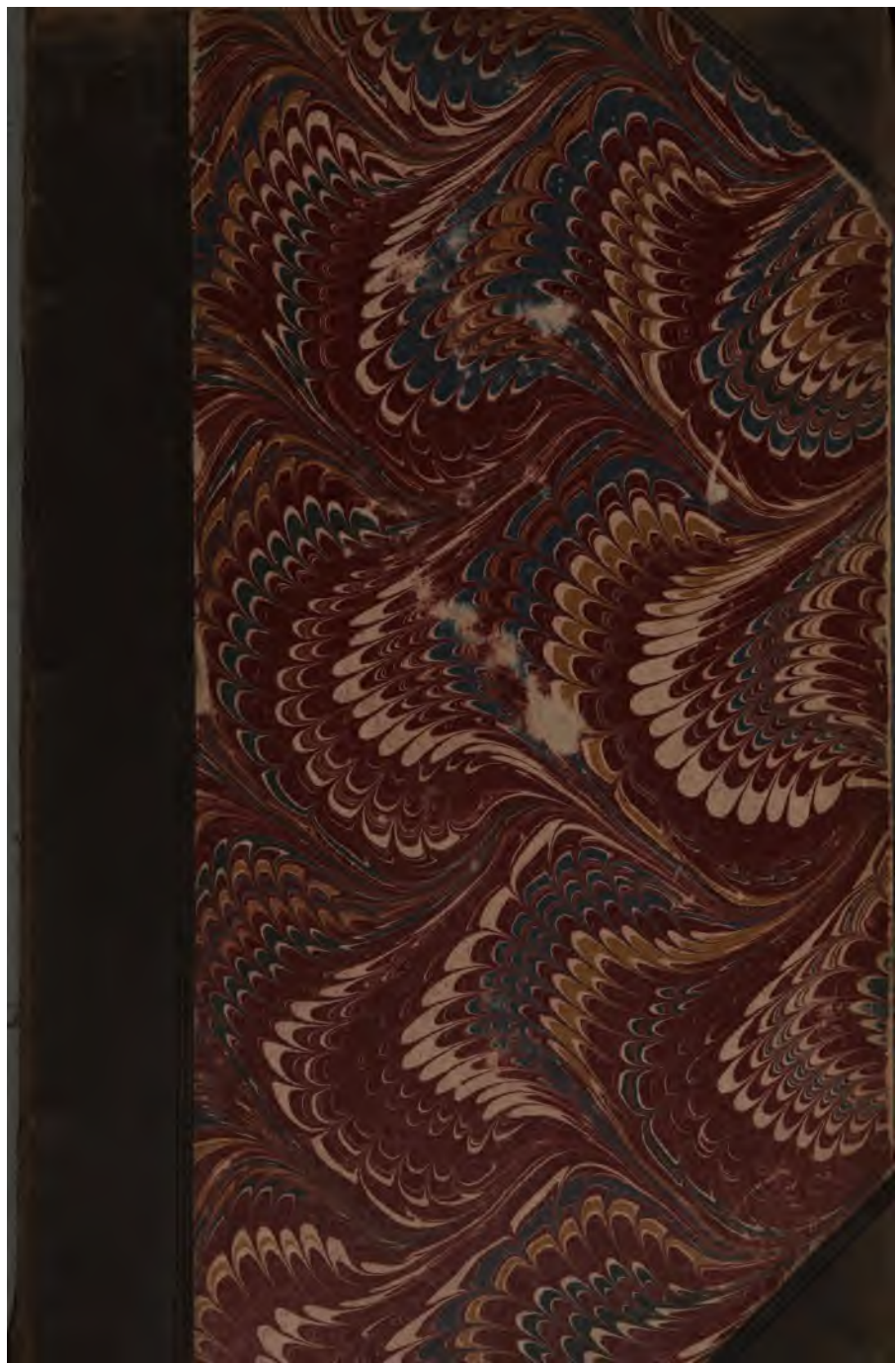
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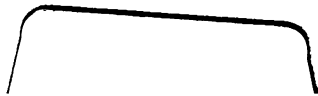
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A  
GEOGRAPHICAL HISTORY  
OF  
NOVA SCOTIA.

Containing an Account of the  
Situation, Extent and Limits thereof.

As also  
Of the various Struggles between the  
Two Crowns of *England* and *France* for  
the Possession of that Province.

Wherein is shewn,  
The Importance of it, as well with  
Regard to our Trade, as to the securing  
of our other Settlements in *North America*.

To which is added,  
An Accurate Description of the Bays,  
Harbours, Lakes, and Rivers, the Nature  
of the Soil, and the Produce of the Coun-  
try. Together with the Manners and  
Customs of the *Indian* Inhabitants.

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T H E

P R E F A C E.

**T**H E following Account of *Nova Scotia* owes its Birth chiefly to his Majesty's gracious Intention to people and settle that Country, a Resolution truly worthy of a Prince who makes the Welfare and Prosperity of his Subjects the constant Rule of his Conduct.

I H A D also this farther Inducement to the Undertaking, as I don't know that any Thing of the like kind has hitherto appeared in publick; and I flatter myself several Passages will be found in it which may serve to throw some Light into this Branch of the *English* History.

I N executing the Plan, besides my own Observations, I have made  
use

## *The* P R E F A C E.

use of all such Helps as could be procured, but am particularly indebted to the History of *New France*, lately publish'd by Father *Charlevoix*.

My first Design was to accompany the Descriptions with a general Map of the Country, and particular Draughts of the most remarkable Bays and Harbours in it. But as the intended Settlers are now on their Departure, I chose to publish it without the Charts; this Account being drawn up in such a Manner as to be useful to those People in furnishing them with some necessary Knowledge of the Country to which they are going; and they will, at the same Time, see what Success they may justly promise themselves in their Settlements and Trade, if their Industry be answerable to the Advantages which are laid before them.

**T H E**



THE  
HISTORY  
AND  
GEOGRAPHY  
OF  
NOVASCOTIA.

**C**OMMERCE is deservedly so much the darling Object of the Nation, that any Proposal to improve it, never fails immediately to draw the Attention of the Publick ; and the Author, whoever he be, if his Plan be duly considered, and well digested, does not only merit, but is sure to receive the **Thanks and Applause** of all his Fellow Citizens.

Among

Among the various Methods that have been at any time thought of, for enlarging this great Source of Power and Opulence, the settling of new Colonies has in the general always been marked out as one of the principal and most desirable. But then it must likewise be acknowledged, that such an Undertaking is no trifling matter. On the contrary, no sooner do we turn our Thoughts upon this Subject, but several Articles of prime Moment present themselves in View.

First of all, it is apparent, that any Enterprize of this Nature will necessarily be attended with great Expence ; large Sums must be advanced before it can even be entered upon, much more before the Design be in any tolerable Degree compleated. Here the Question will occur, What Returns may be expected ? What Advantages are there in Prospect to balance the Risque.

In the next Place, the new Settlers cannot be insensible, that they will have many Difficulties to struggle with, a great deal of Labour and Pains to be undergone, for some Years after their first Entrance upon uncultivated Lands. These, therefore, will naturally want to be satisfied what hopes there are of being compensated for all their Toil and Trouble.

But

But this is not all : In any Proposal of this Sort it is highly requisite to consider, in what Manner, and how far, the projected Trade in the new Settlement, may affect either the Consumption of our own Manufactures at home, or our Commerce with other Countries abroad ; and especially, a regardful Eye must be had to our own Colonies already established in any Part of the World. We ought to be well apprized how far it may interfere with *their* Interest, or help to advance *their* Welfare , since the true Policy of any Government is seen in nothing more conspicuously, than in distributing its Influence to these several Branches under its Care, in such Proportion that each may receive its due Share of Nourishment without prejudicing the rest ; and that the Returns upon the Whole may center in advancing the Strength and Power of the Mother-Kingdom, who first gave Life and Being to them all, and from whom they continually derive their Protection and Support.

Lastly, as increasing the Strength and Power of this Kingdom ought to be the principal Thing in View, and will be the necessary Result of every well-projected and successful Scheme of this Kind. Upon this Account, it must be expected that our Neighbours will continually look with a jealous  
 B 2 Eye

Eye upon its growing State, and not be wanting to set all their Engines to work, in order to distress, and, if possible, to crush it before it arrives at Maturity.

Upon the Whole, nothing can be more obvious, than that no just Estimation can be had, nor any clear Resolution be given to all, or any of these Points, without a sufficient Knowledge of the Country in question; whose Situation, Climate, Soil and Produce must be fairly set forth, as well as the Commodiousness of its Ports, Harbours and Rivers justly and impartially represented, together with an Account of such of its Commodities, as are of its own Growth proper for Exportation, as also what foreign Commodities the Soil and Climate may be kindly for producing.

With this View is drawn up the following Account of *Nova Scotia*: A Part of the World as yet but little known to the Generality of People here. For this Reason I presume a Description of it will not be unacceptable, especially at this Juncture, while we see a Scheme on foot for the better peopling and settling that Country; since every Reader will hereby be qualified to judge for himself of the Policy of this Step, as well as of the Prudence of the Measures

tures taken in order to carry it into Execution.

NOVA SCOTIA in its full Extent comprehends All the Land between the *Canada* River and the Ocean, stretching from N. W. to S. E. a little above 100 Leagues; and from N. E. to S. W. about 80 Leagues, from the Gulf of *St. Lawrence*, to the River *St. Croix*. The Whole extending from  $43^{\circ} 20'$ . to  $49^{\circ} 30'$ . Lat. Nor. and lying between the Meridians of  $63^{\circ}$  and  $74^{\circ}$  Long. West from *London*.

It is situated between *Boston* and *Newfoundland*, nearly at an equal Distance from each, and not more than 100 Leagues from the farthest. By *this* Situation it may serve as a middle Port to both, and be of considerable Use, as well in supplying them with Provisions and other Necessaries, as in providing a safe Retreat to Ships in case of Strefs of Weather, or other Accidents at Sea, at all Times; and in case of a War, it may be look'd on as bringing the other two nearer together, by which means they will be better able to assist each other, either in defending themselves or attacking the Enemy. Add to this, that the Island of *Cape Breton* is hemmed in between *Nova Scotia* and



and *Newfoundland*, and lies, as it were, in the *Mouth*, which is formed by them.

IN ORDER to make a particular Description of the Country as clear as possible, it will not be amiss to consider it under three Divisions, into which it seems naturally to cast itself. The FIRST of these contains all that Part which lies between the Bay of *Fundy* and the River of *St. Lawrence*, The NEXT includes the whole Peninsula by the *French* called *Acadie Proper*. From the Isthmus of which, the THIRD Part extends itself Northward as far as the aforementioned River, being bounded on the East by the Gulf of that Name.

As in describing this Country there will be frequent Occasion to mention the Bay of *Fundy*, it will be proper to begin first of all with that. *This Bay* forms its Entrance at the Island *Manane*, near the Mouth of the River *St. Croix*, from whence it extends its Channel N. E. 60 Leagues into the Land, separating the Western from the Southern Division, or the Peninsula, the Isthmus of which is formed by the Bottom of it, where it nearly meets the Bay of *Verte* from the Gulf of *St. Lawrence* on the opposite Side. The Bay of *Fundy* is 15 Leagues wide at its Entrance, with which Width it stretches 30 Leagues, where it sends off a Branch to the  
S. E.

S. E. which forms the Bay of *Minas*, after which the main Branch is closed into half the Width at *Cape Cognitou*, from whence this Part takes its Name. The Tide is extremely rapid, rising from 24 Feet at the Entrance of the Bay, to upwards of 60 at the Head of this Branch.

The River *St. Croix*, the Western Boundary of *Nova Scotia*, where it borders upon *Sagadehoc*, or *King's County*, in the Province of the *Massachusetts*, is not considerable enough to deserve a particular Notice on any other Account; except that it discharges itself into the Bottom of a curious Harbour called *l'Etang*, or the *Pond*, from the Stillness of the Water, whose Surface is always smooth and unruffled as a Pond, owing to the Highlands, by which it is secured all round from the Wind, the Entrance into it being deep and narrow, but not at all dangerous.

Near this to the S. E. lies the small Island *Manane*, which serves Ships sailing from the West on this Coast for a Land-Mark to the Mouth of the Bay of *Fundy*. About three Quarters of a League's distance from this Island to Seaward, there is a Rock which is rarely seen out of the Water: Upon this Rock there was once discovered a Stone of the *Lapis Lazuli*, which being broke off and brought

brought to Europe, was valued by the Connoisseurs at 50 s. per Ounce.

There are three inconsiderable Rivers, and a small Harbour or two, betwixt this and *St. John's* River, which lies about 18 Leagues down the Bay, on the North Side. This is by far the finest River in the whole Province. Its Channel stretching near 40 Leagues into the Heart of the Country, there spreads itself into three Branches, which range up into so many Places near the Borders of the *Canada* River, into which the *Indians*, by Means of some *Carriage-Places* \*, make a Shift to pass this Way in their Canoes.

Each of these Branches is navigable by small Craft for 20 or 30 Leagues from the main Channel, which (at 40 Leagues Distance from the Mouth) opens to the Width of half a Mile, with Water enough to carry large Ships all the Way, and running with a gentle Current through a pleasant Country, affords an easy and safe Navigation down, very near to its Entrance ; but there

\* This is the Name which the *Indians* give them. They are *Spaces* of Land lying between the Spring-Heads of two Rivers, over which they convey their Canoes not without a good deal of Trouble, these *Places* being often 8, 10, and sometimes 12 Miles across. However, by this Means, they traverse the Country from the Bay of Fundy up this River, to *Quebec*, the capital City of Canada.

there the Banks almost closing, leave only a very narrow Gut, not above a Pistol-Shot over, which there is no passing except at full Tide; at all other Times there is a great Fall, which at Low Water makes a Descent of more than 20 Feet. In sailing up this Streight, you must take great Care to keep to the Right, without coming however too near the Shore, which is lined on each Side with Rocks. The Mouth of the River is formed by an Island, near which stands a Fort with two or three Habitations about it, which commands the Harbour; but this is so small as not to afford Room for three Ships to lie at their Ease. About 30 Miles up is a Village called *Jemset*, which was formerly inhabited by the *French*; as was also another Village about the same Distance from this higher up, where they had likewise a good Fort called *Nexoat*, the Governor being obliged to reside here during King *William's* War, but returning after the Peace of *Ryswic*, to *Port Royal*, both these Villages were left by them to the *Indians*. The Mountains rise at a great Distance, leaving a Champaign Country for many Miles on each Side of the River, which is very apt to overflow its Banks.

About the Distance of a small Cannon Shot from the aforementioned Gut, up the River, the Bank opens into a Creek near 400

Paces in Circuit, in the Middle of which there was sometimes seen a large Tree floating, which maugre all the Force of the Tides and Floods steadily kept its Post, and standing upright, seemed to turn upon its Root as upon a Pivot. However this was, so far is certain, that a kind of superstitious Worship was paid to it by the *Indians*, who hung it round with the Skins of Beavers, and other Animals; it was also deemed an ill Omen when it chanced to be under Water, and could not be seen by them as they passed in their Canoes along the River.

Upon these Reports of the *Indians*, Mr. *La Tour* (whose Character we shall see in the ensuing History) went in his Longboat with six Pair of Oars to the Place, and coming up where it stood, fastened his Cable round it, and set all his Hands to work in order to force it away; but all in vain, the miraculous Stump mock'd their utmost Efforts, and could not be dispossessed of its Station, notwithstanding the Sloop had the Advantage of the Current.

I allow this in itself is a very idle Story, and besides the Phenomenon, if true, when stripped of some Circumstances which Superstition has hung upon it, might easily be accounted for in a natural Way; but at the same

same Time it lets us into the Disposition of the Savages, and is a remarkable Instance of the artful Compliance of the *French* to the Humour of these People ; and in that Light I hope the Reader will not think it foreign to my Purpose.

From *St. John's* River, for 40 Leagues down the Bay, the North Shore is rocky, mountainous, and full of Precipices, and the Tide which was rapid before, being now confined within a narrower Channel, in the Branch *Chignitou*, pours along with great Noise, and an impetuous Torrent, rendering the Navigation both disagreeable and dangerous. On this Account, tho' there are two navigable Rivers, besides several small ones on this Coast, yet the Inhabitants are very few, and the inland Part very little known by us.

The Bottom of the Bay opening itself a little wider than the rest, is called the *Bason of Chignitou*, or *Beau-bassin*, from some small Resemblance that it bears to the *Bason* or *Vase* of a *Fountain*. Upon the Verge of this *Bason*, on the North Side, stands *Chidapouchi*, upon the Bank of a navigable River of the same Name. The Place is reasonably large, consisting of about 60 or 70 Families, who subsist themselves chiefly by

Fishing and Hunting. This is the last Town in the *Western Division* of the Province.

FROM *Chidapouchi* the Coast of the Isthmus is full of Inhabitants, who are settled in a String of Villages, that extends to the River of *Chignitou*, which has a very narrow but deep Channel. Upon the North Side of which, and about two Leagues from its Mouth, stands the Town of that Name, and forms the *Frontier of the Southern Division*, or the *Peninsula*, the Isthmus of which is no more than two Leagues across at this Place. *Chignitou* is a large Town, containing about two hundred Families, and is situated on a healthy Spot, having an extensive Opening to the West of beautiful large Meadows, which being interspersed with small Villages on the Banks of several navigable Rivers, the whole makes a very agreeable Landscape. All round the Bottom of the Bay, and on its Southern Shore, are large Tracts of Marsh Lands, which is the Reason why this Side is better peopled than the other.

About 50 Miles S. W. from hence stand the Town and Parish of *Cobegnuit*, at the Entrance of the Settlements of the *French*, who have spread all over this Part of the *Peninsula*, for several Leagues, round the  
Bay

Bay of *Minas* to the Town of that Name. These People, who have always esteemed themselves independent on the Crown of *Great Britain*, and still live in Hopes of seeing *France* once more restored to the Possession of the Country, have continually, as Occasion serv'd, made use of this Place as a Postern Door to carry on a secret Correspondence with their Countrymen at *Canada*, and the Island of *Cape Breton*, and in order to facilitate a Communication, which is so necessary and useful to them, a Road is opened from hence fifty Miles cross the Country to *Telamagouche*, on the *Eastern Coast*.

*Minas* lies about 50 Miles S. W. of *Cobegnit*; and with regard to the Number of Inhabitants, is by far the principal Place in the whole Province. The Town itself is not so considerable, but if we take in the Villages and Farm-Houses that lie eight or ten Miles about it, and are all within its District, the Number of the whole does not fall much short of four Hundred Houses; and as all of the same Generations always live together, it is common to find three or four Families under the same Roof, if we take them on an Average at three Families in a House, and five Persons in each Family, the whole Number will amount to *six Thousand*.

The



Carriage-Place, pass from thence to Prospect Harbour near *la Heve*, on the South Coast: By the same Conveyance they have also a Passage from another Branch of this Bay to *Cape St. Marie*, on the same Coast, not far from *Canso*: I have before taken Notice of the Road from *Cobegnuit*, at the Bottom of the Bay, to *Tetamagouche*, on the East Coast: And there is a ready Way by Water cross the Bay of *Fundi* to *St. John's River*, and to the Coast of the Western Division. Thus a Communication is opened from this Place to all the three Coasts of the Province. But after all, these Settlements among the Marshes are very much subject to Fogs, and not so healthy as other Parts of the Country.

The Bay of *Minas* is about 16 Leagues long, and in the Middle, near which the Town stands, it is four Leagues in Width; but being in the Form of a narrow Oval, its Entrance, at *Cape Minas*, is not above a League a-cross. Some Mines are said formerly to have been discover'd hereabouts, which gave Occasion to the Name.

About 70 Miles S. W. from *Minas* stands *Anapolis Royal*, the Metropolis of the Province. It consists only of a *Fortress*, defended by three Companies' of *English*, and some Auxiliaries from *New England*. It is situated about five Miles from the Mouth of the

the River which bears its Name, where the Bank is elevated above 60 Feet above the Water's Level. The Fort is Stone-work, laid out in the Form of a Square with four Bastions, and mounted with 40 Cannon. The Ramparts are of Earth, defended with large Stocks of Timber towards the Fosse. There is a Battery that commands the River, and no Danger is apprehended on this Side from any Attack by Ship Guns, since the Tide is so strong as to hinder them from mooring at a proper Distance from the Bank to do Execution. But towards the Land it stands on a Level with the Champaigne Country, and therefore is more expos'd on that Side, and might easily fir'd by Bombs from any Part, as all the Barracks and Magazines are of Wood, except that for Powder, which likewise, tho' built with Stone, is scarcely Bomb Proof.

The River extends itself in a very streight Course East, almost as far as to *Minas*, and is navigable by large Ships 30 Miles into the Country, which is inhabited on each Side by the *French*; who are settled in several pleasant Villages among the Meadows that lie on its Banks. There are reckoned to be about 300 Families of them, who are all aw'd by the Neighbourhood of the Garrison into good Manners, and a peaceful Behaviour, not daring to shew that ungovernable and refractory Spirit which possesses the rest of their Countrymen in these Parts.

The Harbour lies West of the Town at five Miles distance. The Beauty, Safety, and gradual Declivity of its Banks have got it the Name of the *Bafon of Annapolis*, by which Appellation it is usually distinguished. This *Bafon* is about a League and a half in Length, and near a League in Width, is well shelter'd from the Weather, and has Anchorage in good Ground for the most Part from twenty to five Fathom, and not less up the River as far as the Fort. The Road to which for Ships is on the North Side of the *Bafon*, for a small Island called *Goats Island*, lies at the Mouth of the River so near the opposite Shore, that the *Passage* on the South Side is almost impracticable, and on that Account is called *Fool's Passage*. Near this, to the South, lies a Sand Bank, or Shoal, two Miles in length, and half a Mile broad. Two small Rivers run into the *Bafon* on this Side, which is rocky and mountainous. On the S. W. lies a moderately large Creek, from whence, by Means of a Carriage-Place about three Miles across, the *Indians* have a Way into the bottom of the Bay of *St. Marie*, which opens on the West Coast of the *Peninsula*.

The Passage into this fine *Bafon*, which lies on the North West Point, is sometimes called *St. George's Channel*, but is really a very dangerous *Gutt* about a Mile long, with half  
that

that Width, in which the Tide rushing with boisterous Rapidity along a rocky Shoar on each Side, sometimes baffles the Skill and Care of the ablest Pilot, especially if he be catch'd in the Eddy or Counter-Tide, in Foggy Weather, which is very frequent hereabouts.

From the Gutt of *Annapolis* the South Side of the *Bay of Fundi* extends fifteen Leagues to the N. W. Point of the *Peninsula* at *Cape St. Marie*. This Cape forms the Entrance into the Bay of that Name on the Western Coast, already mentioned, which has two small Rivers, and several Harbours of little Consequence before you reach *Poboucou*, which is a navigable River, and has an Indian Village on the North Side near its Mouth.

Three Degrees South from *Poboucou*, and twenty from *Cape St. Marie*, lies *Cape Sable*, the S. W. Point of the *Peninsula*. This Place is well known to the *New England* Men, who are here two or three Times a Year on Account of the Fishery, for which it is very commodious; having a Sand Bank near it for curing the Fish, and several small Islands about it, very convenient for the Bankers to reside on during the Season; but the *Harbour* is not well defended, lies open to the Weather, and has a rocky and dangerous Entrance. Facing the Back of the Island that forms the Cape, and upon the main Land stands the Ruins of a Fort, formerly called

called by the *French Fort la Tour*, which was once a Place of some Strength, and capable of making a good Defence. The Land near the Coast is rocky, and has no inviting Aspect for new Settlers.

Thirty Leagues S. E. from *Cape Sable* lies *Port la Heve*, on the South Coast. The Entrance into it is formed by the Point of an Island called *Round Island*, on the West, and a narrow Peninsular Promontory on the East, and is about a Quarter of a League across. From the Entrance the Harbour immediately bends to the West, spreading about half a League in Breadth to twice that Length. This Bend secures it against Wind and Weather, and there is good Anchorage every where from twenty Fathom to four.

On the North Side lies the River *La Heve*, which extending its Channel North West with a Quarter of a Mile in Width, is navigable by large Ships twelve Miles into the Country. Upon a Point of Land form'd by the Bend of the River, near its Mouth, stands the Block-house, with some Indian Habitations not far from it, and a fine Pond of fresh Water close to it. Opposite to this, on the other Side of the River, is a curious Bed of fine Oysters, which are of an excellent Flavour, and the best in this Country. Not far from this, to the Northward, lies  
another

another small River, upon which the *Indians* have a Passage to a small, but commodious Harbour, called *Mirligueche*, a few Leagues from *La Heve*. This Harbour of *La Heve* is generally esteemed the best in the whole Province. It is very capable of being easily defended, as appears from the Description of its Entrance, and the Soil of the Land about it is esteemed the richest in all these Parts.

The Harbour or Bay of *Chibouctou* lies about seventeen Leagues East from *La Heve*, and justly claims to be its Rival: In Point of Situation it has the Preference, for lying nearer the Heart of the Country, the Communication with the other Parts of it is, upon the whole, easier from this; nor does it seem inferiour to *La Heve* in any other Respect, only that its Harbour lies more open and exposed to the Weather, and the Entrance is not so easy to defend; but the Soil is very rich here, and the Country about is both aptly disposed into high and low Lands easy to be laid out into convenient Farms.

A small Island lying on the Southern Point of the *Peninsula* forms *Cape Canso*. The Port consists of a Bay, with two Creeks. The whole Harbour is about three Leagues in Length: The Bay has a rocky Entrance and lies open to the Weather, but 'tis safe anchoring in the Creeks, which are form'd  
by

by four Islands; the longest of these lies in the Middle of the rest, and is four Leagues in Circuit. This Harbour is much inferior to the two last mentioned, but the Place is more commodious for the Fishery than any on the Coast, especially since the Improvements that have been made there. Here are a few Inhabitants who are wholly employ'd in the Fishery, and on that Account neglect to cultivate the Land, insomuch, that tho' they have been settled here upwards of thirty Years, yet they have little more Improvements to shew than a few Patches to supply them with Kitchen Ware. Next to *Annapolis* this has always been deem'd by the *English* a Port of the greatest Consequence, on Account of its Vicinity to the Isle of *Cape Breton*. It is about nine Leagues from hence to Port *Thoulouse*, and not above twenty to *Louisbourg*, on that Island, and once there was a Detachment of Troops placed here, and a Blockhouse raised for its Protection.

About eight Leagues N. from the Cape lies *Chedabouctou*, or *Milford Haven*, as it is sometimes called. This is a larger Port than any of the above-mentioned, being three Leagues East and West across at the Entrance, from whence it stretches very straight six Leagues to the Bottom of the Bay. On the Centre of which stands the Fortress, formerly a Place of some Strength, being situated on a Peninsula, formed by a River on each

Side

Side of it, in both which there is safe Anchoring, especially in that which extends to the North, where Ships may lie for a League up the Channel, from twelve to six Fathom Water, much safer than in the main Bay, which is very open and exposed.

The Town, which consists of a good Number of Inhabitants, stands upon the west Bank of the last mentioned River, and near enough to the Fort, to be commanded by it. Not far from the Bottom of the Bay, on the south Side, there runs into it a River, called the *Salmon* River, from the great Plenty of that kind of Fish, with which it abounds. The Channel of this River ranges within a few Leagues of *Cape Canso*, from whence the Coast is mountainous, rocky, and unfit for Tillage, and so continues down the south Side of the Bay, near as far as to the *Salmon* River, but from thence all round the Bottom it is low Land, and a good Soil; in which respect, it has greatly the Preference to the *Cape* for settling.

The North Point of the Entrance into *Chedabouctou*, forms the West Point of the Streight of *Canso*, being no more than a narrow Gutt, about a League wide and four Leagues in length, which is the whole Distance of this Part of *Nova Scotia*, from the  
Island



Island of *Cape Breton*. This narrow Passage leads into the Gulf of *St. Laurence*, which washes the East Part of the Province.

Upon this Coast, about four Leagues distance from the Gutt, lies a small Harbour, called *Antigomiche*, which being sufficient to afford safe Moorage for a Canoe, the *Indians* have raised several Habitations near it on the North Side not far from *Cape Louis*, from whence the Land stretches N. W. about eleven Leagues to the Island of *Poictou*, which lies before the Mouth of the Bay of <sup>that Name</sup> ~~that Name~~. This is a large commodious Harbour, and little, if at all inferior to *Tetamagouche*; tho' this last is better known on Account of the Correspondence carried on this Way, by the *French* Settlers on the *Peninsula* with *Louisbourg*, and the Colonies at the Mouth of the *Canada* River, as is above related.

N. W. from *Tetamagouche*, at the Distance of eight Leagues, lies the Bay of *Verte*, abovementioned, which pointing to a Creek that shoots from the Bottom of the Bay of *Fundi*, between them is formed the Isthmus of the *Peninsula*, or *Southern* Division of *Nova Scotia*.

THERE are several fine Harbours and Rivers upon the Coast of the *Eastern Division* of the Province, amongst which, the River called

called *Ristigouche*, deserves particular Notice. It spreads itself in several Branches, over a great Part of this Division, very near as far as to *St. John's River*, on the western Division, and is very little inferior to it, about ten Leagues from the Bay of *Verte*.

About ten Leagues North from *Ristigouche*, lies the Island of *Miscou*, which is about eight Leagues in Circumference, and has a very good Harbour, and being skirted on that Side which lies to the Gulf with a fine sand Bank, is frequented every Year by the *French*, who raise a small Hut, and clear Ground enough to furnish themselves with kitchen Ware for the Season, returning to *France* at the Approach of Winter. At a little Distance from this Island in the Offing, there bubbles out a Spring of fresh Water, which spouts up to a considerable Height.

The *Missionaries* have made some Attempts in their Way on this Island, but with so little Success, that one of them dying here after he had laboured twenty Years with the greatest Diligence, left no other Fruit of his Ministry, except one *Indian Child* which he had baptized.

The Isle of *Miscou* lies near the Entrance into the *Bay des Espagnols*, ~~is~~ called } from  
*E. Baye des Chateaux* } some

some of that Country, who came thither in Search of Gold and Silver Mines ; but being disappointed, went away, crying *Aca nada*, i. e. *Nothing here*, which gave Rise, as some say, to the Name of *Canada*.

From the *Spaniards Bay* it is seven Leagues to *Cape Gaspe*, or *Gapeche*, which is at the Mouth of the River of *St. Lawrence*, and forms the bounding Point of *Nova Scotia* on this Side.

It must be confessed that the *English* have given little Attention to this Part of the Coast, tho' it is equal to any Quarter of the Province, for Plenty of Fish of all Kinds.

Yet without all doubt, the South Coast between the two Capes, *Sable* and *Canso*, is preferable on many Accounts, and is much nearer its mother Kingdom than any of the Rest. It borders nearly upon the eastern Province of *New England* ; and there are several fine Rivers, and commodious Harbours upon it, besides those I have observed, such as *Port Razoit*, *Rosignol*, *Prospect* Harbour, *St. Mary*, &c. of all which to enter into a particular Account, would be tedious. It is more to our Purpose, to observe that four or five sand Banks lie at a convenient Distance off this Coast, extending in a String from one end of it to the other ; the Isle of *Sable* likewise opposite to *Cape Canso*, lies very little out

of the Row, and has its peculiar sand Bank ; in so much, that when we reflect likewise upon the prodigious Shoals of Cod Fish, that crowd the Ocean in these Quarters, it seems as if Nature had prepared this Part of the World, purposely for that Fishery.

But tho' the Advantages that might be reaped from a settled Fishery here, may *alone* be esteemed a sufficient Inducement for Peopling this Country, yet besides this, there are other Views, in which it will be found absolutely necessary, not to neglect it any longer. For, the true Importance of *Nova Scotia* to *Great Britain*, can't be fairly stated, without taking into the Account the relation it bears to the Interest and Views of *France*.

IN ORDER to set this Matter in a clear Light; it will be necessary to give a short Narrative of the *Affairs of this Province*, from the first Discovery to the present Time; wherein we shall find *that* Nation which sets no Bounds to their Ambition, but such as they have it not in their Power to pass, during a Course of near a hundred and fifty Years, continually making use of both the Methods of *Arms* and *Artifice*, to wrest this Country out of the Hands of the *English*, and secure the Possession of it to themselves.

The first Discovery of this Part of the *World*, was made by *Jean Gabato*, a *Vene-*  
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tian,

*tian*, who had a Ship fitted out for him, and was sent for this Purpose by *Henry VII. Anno. 1497.*

Not many Years after this, the *French* taking the Advantage of *Gabot's* Discovery, began to fish upon the grand Bank of *Newfoundland*, and in the Year 1534, one *James Cartier*, of *St. Maloes*, was ordered by the Admiral of *France* into these Parts; accordingly the Captain with all the Ship's Company, having first received the Pope's Benediction from the Hands of his Legate, set Sail; and arriving at *Cape Bonavist* on *Newfoundland*, from thence traversed the Gulf of *St. Laurence*, and entering the Mouth of the great *Canada* River, the Captain their landed his Men, on the north Side, and built a Fort\*.

This done, he directed his Course up the River, and penetrated into the Country as far as *Mountreal*, where meeting with a large *Indian* Town, in which the Inhabitants were covered with Castor, and other rich Furrs; these fixed his Attention. And observing likewise at the same Time, that the People were extremely addicted to Superstition and Sorcery, being himself a very religious Catholic, this fell in exactly with his own Humour, and he presently insinuated himself

\* It is an arch Remark of Dean *Swift's*, that in settling of *lonies*, the *French* first build a Fort, the *Spaniards* a *b*, and the *English* an Alehouse.

himself entirely into their Esteem and Confidence, by presenting them with a great Number of *Rosaries*, and *Agnus Dei's*; all which, he assured them upon the Faith of a Christian, were so many consecrated Charms, that would infallibly cure all their Maladies. Having thus got Admittance freely to them, he entered upon the main Business, and began to traffic with them for their Furs; with which he quickly loaded his Ships, and returned to *France*.

Upon Sight of the Cargo, the Advantage of the Furr Trade, was easily comprehended by his Countrymen at *St. Malos*, who did not neglect their Interest, in cultivating it with their utmost Diligence, and as the Road to the River of *St. Laurence* lies near *Acadie*, or *Nova Scotia*, it happened that Ships in this Passage were sometimes blown upon that Coast.

In this Manner, the *French* came by Degrees, in a Course of near thirty Years, at some Knowledge of it, and in the Year one thousand six hundred and four, *Peter Guest Sieur de Montz* of *St. Maloes*, Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber to *Henry IV.* having projected the Design, and procured several Merchants of *St. Maloes*, *Rochelle*, *Havre de Grace*, and other *Ports*, to form themselves into a Company, for carrying it into Execution, the Plan was laid before his Majesty, and being approved

approved of by him, a very extensive Deputation, appointing him Admiral and Lieutenant-General of all this Part of North *America*, was granted to the Projector, together with an exclusive Patent for the Fish and Furr Trade.

Thus armed with all the Power and Authority that his Master could give him in these Parts, he set sail, with four Ships in Company, for *Acadie*, where being arrived, he wandered about the Coast a considerable time, not meeting with a Place to his Mind. The first Place he put into was Port *Rosignol*, which was the Name of a Master of a Vessel whom he found trading there, and confiscated both Ship and Cargo by Virtue of his Patent, making the Captain the poor Satisfaction of calling the Harbour by his Name. He went next into Port *Mouton*, a Name which he gave it from a Sheep that lay drowned in that Harbour. He made no Stay in either of these Places, and went afterwards to the Island of *St. Croix*, where he landed his Men with an Intention to settle, but he soon found the Place too small to furnish his Company with Necessaries, and embarking once more, Chance at last threw him into *Port-Royal*; where being pleased with the Beauty and Commodiousness of the Bason, and observing likewise the Face of the Country to be level

level upon the Banks of the River, and the Soil fertile, he determined to fix in this Place, and accordingly setting up the *French* Standard, he took Possession of the Country in the Name of the King his Master, in Honour of whom he called this Place *Port-Royal*. After this he raised a Fort, and some other Necessaries, and immediately opened a Trade for Furs with the Natives, which succeeded very well.

In this whole Proceeding it is to be observed, that the *French* shewed no Regard to the Right claimed by the *English* to this Country; a Right originally constituted by Virtue of the *first Discovery* of *North-America* in *Henry VII.* Reign, and afterwards confirmed and established by *prior Occupancy* Anno 1583 of this Part in particular. For *Sir Gilbert Humphry*, in pursuance of a Grant of *Newfoundland*, which he had obtained of *Queen Elizabeth* at the Suit of *Walsingham*, having first taken Possession of that Island, and settled the Cod-Fishery there, came upon the Coast now called *Nova Scotia*; where he lived 2 Year<sup>s</sup>, and died in the Country.

After this the *English* being employed in settling *Virginia*, contented themselves with the Possession of the Fishery upon the South Coast, giving little Attention to what passed



passed upon the Continent at *Port-Royal*: where *De Monts* made his Markets very well during the Summer Season, and in the Autumn returned, with his Ships richly laden, to *France*.

But upon his Arrival there, he found the State of his Affairs very much altered at Court, for the private Traders had already made, and still continued to make, such heavy Complaints of the Detriment of his exclusive Patent to them, that they prevailed at last to have it revoked. Upon this, he sold his Right in *Port-Royal* to one of his Voluntiers in the Expedition, whose Name was *Poutrincourt*, which Title being confirmed by a fresh Patent from the King, he went over and took Possession of his new *Demesne*.

This Gentleman being intent upon making his Fortune, applied himself rather to push on the Trade with Vigour, than to establish a firm and lasting Settlement in the Country. It was necessary to till and sow so much Land, as might furnish the Colony with Provisions, which he took Care of, but entirely neglected to provide for its Security and Defence by a proper Fortification. It is true, there was little Danger to be apprehended from the Savages who, on the contrary, finding themselves supplied by the

the Traffic with necessary Furniture for the Mouth, *which was all they wanted*, soon grew tractable, and fond of the Trade, *which was all he wanted*. But in the mean time, the great Work of God, as the Jesuits call it, *viz.* The Conversion of the *Gentiles*, went slowly on under such an Administration.

Mr. *de Montz* was by Profession a *Calvinist*; and though he was well affected to Religion in general, yet either not being instructed in the proper Manner of Address to the Savages for this Purpose, or perhaps not caring to make use of those *pious Frauds* which had succeeded so well in *Cartier's* Hands, it is certain that Christianity made little or no Progress during *his* Residence amongst them.

And *Poutrincourt*, though a good Catholic, yet never had any good Liking for the *Jesuit* Missionaries. He knew very well, that Dominion and Wealth were the great Objects, which all of that Order had constantly in their Eye; and this Temper ill comported with his own Designs. Wherefore, though on his Departure from *France*, he had a Couple of these Envoys forced upon him, much against his Will, yet he took care from their Arrival to keep them strictly within the Bounds of their proper Function. This Conduct cast such a Damp upon the Zeal of these Apostolical Fathers, that they made *very little* Impression upon the Savages.

However, it is certain their Successors played their Cards much better, and by Degrees wriggled themselves so firmly into the Favour of these People, that *They* became, through the Instigation of the Missionaries, a chief Means of our being kept many Years out of the Possession of this Country ; for which Reason, as there will be frequent Occasion of mentioning them in the Sequel of this Narrative, some Account of them may justly be expected in this Place.

The *Indian* Natives of the *Peninsula*, which I call the Southern Division of *Nova Scotia*, give themselves the Name of *Souriquois*. But these, as well as the *Gaspesiens* in the Eastern Division, and the *Etcbemins*, who formerly inhabited the Province of the *Massachusetts*, being joined in Confederacy with the *Abenquois*, who inhabit the Western Division of *Nova Scotia*, and are by far the most sensible and intelligent Tribe amongst them, are all usually comprehended under their Name, for which there is also another good Reason, arising from the little Difference that is found among them, in respect either of Language, Customs or Manners. In their Persons they are rather low-fiz'd, but well shaped, very feat, nimble, and swift of foot, but what is most remarkable, have rarely any Beard ; however, they are a very brave and warlike People.

With

With regard to Marriage, they tolerate Polygamy univerfally; but this Liberty, however, is rarely made use of by any \*, except the *Sagamo*; that is the Title given to their Chieftains. This Dignity is, ftrictly fpeaking, elective, but the Choice generally falls upon him who is at the Head of the moft numerous Family.

Every Town has its proper *Sagamo* independent of the reft, who is Guardian of all the Youth in the Town under his Jurifdiction. Thefe he keeps ftrictly under his Authority and Command till they are married. All the Fruits of their Labour belong to him; and even after they are married, and have feveral Children, they pay him a Kind of *Tribute*, which is exacted with the utmoft Rigour.

Every *Sagamo* decides all the Differences and Difputes that at any time arife either between Families or fingle Perfons, within his Townfhip; and if the Parties cannot otherwife be brought to an Accommodation, Juftice is immediately executed by him, according to the *Lex Talionis*, which is obferved in the ftricteft Senfe of the Letter. This ~~is~~<sup>is</sup> ~~the~~<sup>some</sup> Inftance of the Authority of the *Sagamo* confidered feperately. But in all Matters wherein the whole Tribe is concerned, nothing is deter-

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mined

\* This Referve is not fo much owing to their Charity as to their Lazinefs, which indisposes them to provide a Maintenance for, or to make Prefents to, more than one Woman.

mined without a Decree of the General Council of all the Chiefs, or States, of that Tribe.

Petty Quarrels are ended here upon the Spot, as they are in several civiliz'd Countries : The Parties go to Loggerheads together for a while, after which they separate without much Harm done on either Side. But the Husbands are quite Savages to their Wives, and in a Passion tear them about most barbarously ; nor will they bear the least Controul in this, which, if offered by a By-stander, they cry, *I am Master of my own House, and will beat my Dog whenever I please.*

If the Wife is at any Time caught going astray, the Adultery often costs her her Life. The Girls are in general very shy, and won't suffer any Toying or Dalliance ; but if one of them happens now and then to make a Slip, in a private Manner, the Affair is hushed up in the Family, till such Time as she grows notorious, and becomes a common Strumpet ; in which Case she is turned out of Doors.

They are very fond of Children, and at the Birth of a Boy they have their *groaning Feast*, which is a very merry Time. They also regale a second Time at the Cutting of his first Tooth ; and make a third grand Entertainment

tainment upon the first wild Beast which he brings home from hunting, which is a Proof of his coming to Man's Estate.

They are great Warriors, and their Neighbours stand much in Awe of them, being the only Nation that are not afraid to face the *Iroquois* \* in the Field of Battle. But before they go to War, they try their Courage in a pitched Battle with their Wives, in which Conflict if they chance to be worsted, they take Heart from their Defeat, and make no doubt of Success in their intended Expedition. On the other Side, if the Wife proves the weaker Vessel, an ill Omen is drawn from thence. This Conduct, I own, seems a little strange and absurd at first hearing ; yet, upon a nearer View, it will appear to be founded in very good Sense and Reason. In the first Case, the Husband is made desperate, not daring to return home without the Laurel, for Fear of a second Drubbing from his Wife. On the contrary, he that is Master at home, knows how to make himself well received there, whatever Disgrace he may have suffered in the Field.

Their Manner of declaring War has a natural Simplicity, which is very expressive. This

\* These are the *Indians* that inhabit the Country lying on the Back of *New-England*.

This being an **Affair** of a public **Concern**, is transacted, as has been already observed, in a general Assembly of the Chiefs; who being convened, one of them declares the Occasion of their Meeting, and makes loud Complaints of the Injuries and Insults put upon him by the Enemy, then raising his Hands, in which he holds a Hatchet, above his Head, vows to revenge the Wrong; the rest, who never refuse to back the Quarrel, following his Example, each lifts up the Hatchet. In this Posture they all join in a Chorus, singing to Arms, in a gloomy growling Murmur, which is accompanied with a Spirit-stirring rattling Din, made by the shaking of some Pebbles in a Callibash.

When the Father of a Family happens to die, the Corps is immediately carried out of the Hut; to which they set fire, and entirely consume the Edifice, with all that is in it. After this the Body is cut and gashed in several Places, and the Viscera being taken out, is set to dry. As soon as it is found to be sufficiently, as they think, prepared in this Manner to resist Corruption, they inter it, adorning the Grave, both within and without, with the best of what they have.

Their Skill in Physic is very small, and extends only to the Knowledge of two or  
three

three Simples; and when any Distemper feizes them, little Assistance is either offered or expected from Medicine: Therefore they apply themselves chiefly to the *preventive* Part, and endeavour to preserve Health, by using a great deal of Exercise, with frequent Bathing and Sweating.

When any one has narrowly escaped Drowning, and swallowed a great Quantity of Water, they presently give him a Glister of the Smoak of Tobacco, and then hang him to a Tree by the Heels. In which Condition the Stomach quickly discharges itself of that Load of Water with which it was oppressed.

Upon the whole, they are a lazy Set of People without any Forecast, and won't be at the Pains of providing any Store against a bad Season, or other Accidents. They think it abundantly sufficient to sow as much Land as will ordinarily produce Corn enough to serve them till the next Season, so that in case the Crop comes to any Mischance, they live miserably, and suffer great Want, even in the *Midst* of Plenty, rather than be at the Pains of ~~hunting~~ and killing so much Game as would be a comfortable Support.

To effect this requires but little Fatigue, for the Country *abounds* with the Necessaries  
of



of Life, and every Season is capable of furnishing a sufficient Subsistence to the Inhabitants, were they as numerous as in any Part of *Europe*; and nothing is more easy than to lay up Store enough to last from one Season to another, and be provided against Sickness, or other Accidents that may supervene.

In *October* and *November* begins the Chace for the *Castor* and the *Elk*, which holds a good Part of the Winter. In *December*, or rather in the two last Moons of the Year, a Fish called *Ponamo*, comes to spawn upon the Ice, and you may catch as many as you please. I take this to be a Species of the *Dog-Fish*.

This is the Time also <sup>when</sup> ~~which~~ the *Tortoises* lay their Eggs. *Bears*, *Otters*, and *Hares* make also a Part of the Riches of this Season, which is farther improved by several Sort of Wild Fowl, as *Partridge*, *Duck*, *Teal*, *Bustard*, and others; and the Rivers and Lakes are cover'd with *Coots*, *Widgeons*, and other River Fowl in all Parts.

In *January* the *Sea Wolf* comes up the Rivers. The Flesh of this Creature is good eating, neither ill-tasted nor unwholesome. From the beginning of *February* to the Middle of *March* is the Height of the Season for hunting the *Caribou*, as also the *Red* and *Fallow Deer*.

Towards

Towards the End of *March*, the Fish begin to spawn, and crowd into the Rivers in such Shoals, as is incredible to any one that has not seen it. The first that comes in is the *Smelt*, which is three times as big here as in *Europe*. The Banks of the Rivers are likewise covered with Bustards; who come there to build their Nests; the Eggs alone of these Birds are almost sufficient to subsist the Inhabitants during the Season, and that without hurting the Increase of the Species.

After these, the *Sturgeon* and the *Salmon* bring in warm Weather; and now all the Hollows of the Rocks, and other Recesses, are stuffed with Birds Nests of every Kind.

Besides this Plenty of Eatables, which succeeding each other, make all together an agreeable Variety, the Cod-Fish may be looked on as the constant standing Dish of the Country; and if these People would till and sow their Land, feed their Cattle, and raise Poultry; Fishing, Fowling and Hunting might be used only for Exercise and Diversion.

The Inhabitants in general live to a great Age, and it is particularly remarked of one of the Sagamo's, whose Name was *Mambertok*, that he was above 100 Years old when he died. I confess there is nothing so extraordinary in this as to deserve a particular Remark.

But in the last Stage of this Man's Life there passed a Transaction more worthy of Notice, in which the Temper and Spirit of our two Jesuits already mentioned, shines forth in its full Lustre. One of them relates the Affair himself.

This Chief being newly profelyted to the Christian Faith, was carested by the *Missionaries* in a very extraordinary Manner, on Account of the particular Service, that the Example of a Person in so much Esteem and Credit among the Savages, might be to them in the great Work of their Ministry. But not long after his Conversion, he had the Misfortune to be seized, at his own home, with a very dangerous Bloody Flux, in which Condition our Fathers manifested their pious Care and Tenderness towards him, by getting him removed to *Port. Royal*, where there was an Apothecary, and proper Medicines for his Case; notwithstanding this, the Distemper baffled all their Efforts, and the *Indian* finding himself near his End, expressed a great Desire to have his Body carried, after his Death, to his own Town, there to be laid among his Ancestors. The Governor made no Scruple of granting the Request of a dying Man, in itself so reasonable and so natural: But this Conduct of the Governor's no sooner reached the Ears of our Zealots, than they immediately repaired to the Place  
where

where he was, and loudly remonstrating against the Impiety and Profanation of depositing the sacred Corps of a Christian in heathenish and unhallowed Ground; set forth the great Scandal such a Proceeding would bring upon Religion in general, and particularly declared, that they were forbidden, by the Rules of their holy Mother the Church, to perform the Obsequies in such a Place. The Governor observed to them that this Objection might be presently removed, and the Matter made easy, since all they had to do, was to prepare the Place beforehand, by a due Consecration; a Power with which he knew they were invested. To this they instantly replied, that the Thing was not so easy as he imagined; since the Land could not be consecrated, till it was fitted to receive *that* Benediction, by first having all the Bodies of the Heathens that lay there dug up, and carried off the Spot; a Proceeding, to which it was certain, they said, *Mambertou* himself would never consent.

Having thus silenced the *Commandant*, they went to visit the dying Person, the unfortunate Author of all this Mischief and Disturbance. Him they found upon his Death-Bed in a very weak and languishing Condition, a proper State this they well knew for receiving all suitable Impressions.

Accordingly they rung a Peal of Terrors in his Ears upon the dangerous Situation in which his Soul must needs be, which could give Way to such an unchristian Thought, as that of being buried in the Place of his Nativity; assured him, that unless he mortified this unaccountable Humour, and submitted to have his Corps laid in the Church-yard, they must be obliged to look upon him as dying out of the Pale of the Church, and consequently must consign him over to eternal Damnation! concluding withal, that they were willing to impute it to the Disorder of his Brain, which was disturbed by a Delirium, and did believe it to be the pure Effect of his Distemper. The poor *Sagamo*, quite confounded with their Violence and Impetuosity, found himself in no wise inclined to enter into Disputes in his last Moments, and desiring now nothing so much as to be left alone to pass quietly and unmolested into the next World, told them with his last Breath, *that THEY knew best, and that after he was dead they might do what they pleased with his Body.* Thus died *Mambertou the Sagamo*, who probably had raised himself to that Dignity, by taking upon him the Character of an *Autmoin*, that is, by practising the greatest Part of his Life all the diabolical Arts of Sorcery and Witchcraft. But notwithstanding this, he was brought, by the indefatigable Zeal and boundless Charity of these spiritual

tual *Paffors*, to make his Departure at laſt in the *Odour* of Sanctity, and his funeral Obſequies were ſolemnized with a Pomp and ~~lemonity~~ *Magnificence* befitting the Governor himſelf.

While theſe Things were tranſacting at *Port-Royal*, a new Project was formed in *France* to get Poſſeſſion of *Pentagoet*, a River which lies 30 Leagues S. W. from that of *St. Croix*: With this View a Colony, duly furniſhed with *Miſſionaries*, was transported thither in the Year 1613; where finding no Body to oppoſe them, the Men landed, and preſently raiſed a *Fort*. This Attempt, however, proved abortive, and the Colony was totally deſtroyed before the People had Time to form themſelves into a regular Settlement. For the Governor of *Virginia*, who ſeveral Years before had obtained a Grant of this Coaſt as far as to the Latitude of 45 Degrees North, being informed by ſome of his People (who uſed the Fiſhery at a little Iſland called *Mount Deſert*, near the Mouth of that River) of this Invaſion of his Right, in a Place of great Importance, on Account of that Trade. He diſpatched Commodore *Argol*, with three Ships of Force, this ſame Year, into theſe Parts, who, on his Arrival here, ſet fire to the Fort, and carried away the whole Colony, with their *Miſſionaries*, Priſoners of War. From hence he proceeded to *Port Royal*, where, finding the

the Place abandoned by the *French*, who, on his Approach, had fled into the Woods, he set fire to that Fort likewise, with all the Houses, and Works there of every kind. Thus was consumed, in the Space of two Hours, what had cost the *French*, in the Compass of a few Years, above 100,000 Crowns to establish. *Argol*, having executed his Commission, returned to *Virginia*; and, upon his Departure, the Inhabitants came back to *Port Royal*, where Mr. *Poutrincourt* aforementioned, who still carried on the Trade, found them the Year after.

The Country remained in this State, with little Alteration, till the Year 1621, when King *James* the First conferred it upon the Earl of *Stirling*, by a Patent, wherein it was first called *Nova Scotia*, which Name it has retained ever since. This Lord, not long after, appointed a Deputy, whom he sent to reconnoitre the Country, and mark out a proper Place to build a House upon, for the Governor's Residence. But this Gentleman, arriving on the South Coast, entered two small Ports, not far from *Cape Sable*, but made no Stay in either of them, and in a short Time returned by the Way of *Newfoundland* to *England*. From this Time his Lordship dropped the Design, and never afterwards made any Use of his Grant.

The *French* taking Advantage of this Neglect, continued to trade as before, and spread themselves by degrees into several Parts of the Country, where they met with no Disturbance till the Year 1627. But the good Understanding between the two Crowns being interrupted by the Siege of *Rochelle*, one *Kirk*, a *French* Refugee, in order to ingratiate himself with the Court of *England*, acquainted the then Ministry with the weak Condition of his Countrymen at *Quebec*. In Return for this Information, he had the Command of a Squadron of five Men of War given him, and was sent to drive the *French* out of every Part of *Canada*, and *Nova Scotia* being comprehended in this Commission, he took this in his Way, and destroyed all the *French* Settlements there, except only one at *Cape Sable*, where was established a Gentleman called *La Tour*, who had built a good Fort which he commanded himself.

The Father of this Gentleman having left his own Country under Pretence of Religion at the Time of the Siege of *Rochelle*, resided at *London*, and being a Man of good Address, he found Means to insinuate himself into the Affection of one of the Maids of Honour to the Queen, and married her. After the Marriage his Lady made use of the Interest she had with the Queen her Mistress to obtain the  
Honour



( 56 )  
*a Baronet of Nova Scotia*

Honour of ~~Knighthood~~ for her Husband, and in return for this Favour he engaged to put the *English* in Possession of the Fort above-mentioned. The Thing seemed feasible, and upon his Assurance of Success, two Men of War were presently fitted out for the Expedition, and being provided with a suitable Number of Land Forces, ~~Mr. La Tour~~ <sup>*The Baronet*</sup> went on board, together with his new married Spouse, whom he had prevailed on to accompany him in the Voyage.

On their Arrival before *Cape Sable*, *La Tour* the Father went first on Shore, and being conducted into the Fort to his Son, he opened the Conference with an ample Relation of his own extraordinary Credit with the Court of *London*, and expatiated on the great Advantages which he had just Grounds to hope for from it. He then added, that it was entirely in his Son's Power to make equal Advances for himself at *that* Court; and to convince him of the Truth of what he alleged, he produced the *Insignia* of the <sup>*new*</sup> Order of ~~Knighthood~~, which he said were intended for him; informing his Son likewise, that he had full Power to confirm him in the Government of his Fort, in case he would please to declare for his *Britannick* Majesty.

*The young Commandant* listened to this *Discourse* of his Father's with no less Indignation

nation than Astonishment; but did not hesitate a Moment in determining what Course to take upon this Emergency, and instantly assured his Father, that he had greatly deceived himself, in believing his Son capable of so much Baseness, as to deliver the Fort into the Hands of the Enemies of his Country; letting him know, on the contrary, that he was determined to preserve it for the King his Master, as long as he had any Breath in his Body. He said he was very sensible of the high Worth of that Dignity which the King of *England* had condescended to lay before him; but at the same Time protested, he never could yield to purchase it at the Price of his Allegiance to his own Sovereign; concluding, that he was fully satisfied the King, whom he had the Honour to serve, was very well able to reward him, in such a Manner as would leave him no Room to regret the Loss he should incur by the Refusal; and that, however, in all Events, the Consciousness of having done his Duty, and maintained his Fidelity to his natural Prince, should be always esteemed by him to be *its own Reward*.

Ill satisfied with this Answer, which he little expected, the Father returned on board; from whence he wrote to his Son upon the same Subject in the most tender and pressing *Terms*. But the Letter had no Effect. At  
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last

last he gave the Commandant to understand, that it was in his Power to effect *that* by Force which he had not been able to obtain by his Intreaty, and begged him to consider, that after the Troops should be landed, it would be too late for him to repent his having rejected such advantageous Offers as had been made him. In conclusion, exhorting him by all the Authority of a Father, not to put him under a Necessity of treating his own Son as an Enemy.

These Menaces were treated with as little Regard, as the Promises and Sollicitations had been before; and in the End the Father was obliged to come to Extremities. Accordingly the Forces were landed, and being drawn up before the Fort begun the Attack. But to their great Surprise the Commandant defended the Place with so much Obstinacy and Resolution, that the General, who had proposed nothing more than making a Parade with his Men upon the Shore, and never thought of meeting with any Resistance, seeing several of his Men killed, and little or no Advances made, grew sick of the Enterprize in two Days, and proposed to raise the Siege, which being agreed to in a Council of War, he communicated what had passed therein to *La Tour* the Father.

Never

Never did Man appear more thunder-struck, than he did at the Sight of this Determination of the Council of War. It threw him into all the Perplexity and Confusion imaginable. He durst not shew his Face again at the Court of *England*, where he had so confidently engaged for his Son's Compliance; and on the other Hand, to return to *France* was quite out of the Question. In short, the only way he had left, and which he resolved upon, was to throw himself upon his Son's Clemency, and rely entirely upon *his* native Goodness.

There was still another Difficulty behind, which was, how to open the Matter to his Wife; but Shame soon giving way to Necessity, he took his Opportunity, when they were alone, and acquainting her with the melancholy State of his Affairs, as above related, told her, that the greatest Inducement he first had to undertake this Voyage, was the Assurance with which he had flattered himself, that he should thereby have an Opportunity of settling *her* happily in *America*; but since his Ill Fortune had blasted all these pleasing Views, he could not propose her staying in the Country, as it was not in his Power to put her into such a Situation there, as would be agreeable to her; and therefore

freely left her at Liberty to return home to her Friends and Relations.

To this the Lady replied with an uncommon Magnanimity of Spirit, That the sacred Vow which she made before the Altar at her Marriage, was made without any Reserve on *her* Part, and should always be the unalterable Rule of her Conduct: That into whatsoever Part of the World it should please him to carry her, or whatever might be the Situation of his Affairs there, she should think it her Duty to share in every Turn of Fortune that befel him; and should place her greatest Felicity in softening the Rigour of his Fate, and alleviating his Sorrows. *La Tour* at once both charmed and melted by this noble Generosity of his Wife, immediately procured an Application to be made to his Son; wherein, first setting forth the distressful Circumstances into which he was unexpectedly plunged, he made it his humble Request, that the Commandant would be pleased to permit him to pass the Remainder of his Days in *Acadie*.

Young *La Tour* received the Petition with his usual Humanity, and returned for Answer; that altho' his Father's Conduct, with regard to him, would admit of no manner of Extermination or Excuse, yet the Thought of exposing him to return to *England*, where most  
probably

probably he would soon make his *Exit* at the Gallows, was intirely insupportable to him, for which Reason, he very willingly consented to grant him an *asylum* near himself, but nevertheless under this Restriction, which he insisted to be inviolably observed, that neither he nor his Lady should enter within the Walls of his Fort, upon any Occasion whatsoever. For the rest, he said he would accommodate them in the best Manner he was able, and engaged his Word they should not want for any thing.

The Son's Reserve seemed a little severe, but this was not a time for the Father to dispute, and he gladly accepted the Offer upon the Condition proposed. The married Couple with their Attendants, two of each Sex, and all their Effects, were put on Shore, and in a few Days the two Ships fet Sail for *England*. Young *La Tour* took Care to have a suitable House built for the Family as soon as possible, but at some Distance from his Fort; however the Situation was pleasant, with good Lands about it; and there they lived many Years.;

Not long after this, in the Year 1629, <sup>Upon the</sup> ~~after the War of Rochelle,~~ King Charles I. <sup>1629</sup> was prevailed upon to sign a Treaty, whereby all *Canada* was surrendered to the *French*, and they took Care to comprehend *Nova Scotia* under the Name of *Acadie*, within that Treaty.

Treaty. This is said to be done by the Advice of my Lord *Mountague*. The *French* were so much surpris'd at the extraordinary Complaisance of the *English* Court, at this Juncture, that they are at a Loss how to account for it.

'Tis True, the Colony of *New England*, was then in its Infancy, and required a particular Regard to establish and improve it, which might draw the Attention of the *English*, in some Degree, off the Affairs of *Nova Scotia*, about that time ; but this can never be a sufficient Reason, (as the *French* gloss it,) for giving up our Right to it by a formal Treaty. I won't take upon me to fish out the Secrets of the Court, in this or any other Reign, but if I may be allowed for once, to hazard a Surmize, why might not the Cession of *Nova Scotia*, be a Compliment paid to the Queen ; she was Sister to *Lewis XIII.* then King of *France*, and King *Charles* the First's well-known Uxoriousness helps to countenance the Conjecture.

However that be, it is certain the *French* having thus got Possession of this Country assur'd to them, lost no time in taking proper Measures, for reaping the whole Advantage of their new Acquisition; with this View, the Province was given to one *Razilli*, who afterwards admitted two Colleagues, as Sharers with him in it, and the whole was divided into three Parts, each

Part

Part having its proper Governor, who was also Proprietor of his own Division. The first of these Districts comprehended all the Land on the South Side of the River of *St. Lawrence*, from *New England* to *Port Royal*. That Part of the *Peninsula* which lies between *Port Royal* and *Cape Canso*, was contained in the second, the Governor of which resided at *La Heve*; and the third extended from *Canso* to *Cape Gaspe*, at the Mouth of the above-mentioned River.

These Governors likewise provided each for securing his own Demefne, by building Forts in proper Places. In the first Division one was built at *Pentagoet*, another at *St. John's River*, and a third at *Port Royal*: The second had Fort *La Tour*, already built, to which was added another at *La Heve*: The third satisfied himself with a good Entrenchment at *Chedabouctou*, thinking it unnecessary to be at any Expence on the rest of the Eastern Coast, which bounding to the Gulf of *St. Lawrence*, he judg'd was sufficiently secured by the Isle of *Cape Breton*, and the *French* Settlements at the Mouth of the *Canada* River, especially as it was not likely the *English* would make any Attempts on that Side.

In adjusting these Boundaries of the whole Province, it is very observable, that as this

was



was the first Time the *French* had an uncontested Right to *Nova Scotia*, so this was the Time when the just Limits were first authoritatively settled by themselves. These then must be esteemed by them to be the *ancient* Limits, and these are the ancient Limits ascribed to it at present by the *English*.

The State of *Nova Scotia*, or *Acadie*, being brought into so good a Regulation, every Thing remained quiet for a considerable Time, each of the Proprietors being industrious to make the best of his own Peculiar, and all growing rich upon the Profits of the Fish and Furr Trades.

But in the Year 1647 the Governors began to quarrel with each other, and fell into civil Broils and Dissentions among themselves, which paved the Way not only for their own Ruin, but also brought on the Loss of the whole Province to their Mother Kingdom.

One of these Governors called *Charnisé*, who succeeded *Razilli*, growing richer and more powerful than the rest, and having by the original Constitution some Superintendency likewise over the whole, formed a Design of driving the other two out of their Demesnes, and of monopolizing the whole Trade to himself.

In order to carry this into Execution, he began with transplanting his Colony at *La Heve* to *Port Royal*, the Capital of the Western Division which had been given to young *La Tour* in Reward for his Services above related ; there having gain'd this Point, the next Step he took was to seize the Fort and Settlements upon *St. John's River*, where *La Tour* resided, and having got Intelligence that the Commandant <sup>was</sup> was fallen into the *Indian* Manners of neglecting to cultivate their Land, had taken out the greatest Part of his Garrison to forage. He laid hold of this Opportunity, and march'd his Troops in order to surprize the Fort and take Possession of the Place.

Madam *La Tour*, being left with a very few Soldiers, was thrown into the greatest Confusion imaginable at this unexpected Attack ; however she soon recovered her first Fright, and resolv'd to defend herself to the last Extremity. In effect she behaved so well, that the Besiegers were beat off for the Space of three Days ; but on the fourth Day, one of her Men, who was a *Swiss*, deserting his Post, she was informed, that the Enemy had sett the Ladders, and was going to scale the Walls there. Upon this Advice she runs to the Place, mounts the Ramparts, and shews herself on the Wall at the Head of all  
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 her

her little Garrison. The Besiegers seeing her Resolution, and at the same Time observing a greater Number of Men than they expected to have found there, concluded the Place was in a much better State of Defence than had been related to them. In this Disposition they were induced to grant her a Capitulation on honourable Terms, in Pursuance of which the Fort was delivered up to them.

But the General, upon his Entrance into the Place, finding to what a Handful of Men he had given so favourable a Composition, and being nettled with the Disgrace it would throw upon his Character, declared, that he was deceived and decoyed into the Agreement, and absolutely refusing to abide by the Articles, he seiz'd them all as Prisoners at Discretion, and hang'd every Man of them except one, who saved himself by being Hangman to the rest. But what was still more shocking, he obliged the Lady to attend during the whole Time of the Execution with a Rope about her Neck.

In this distracted State of Affairs, while the three Estates of the Province were disputing the Possession of their several Shares by the Sword, the *Bostoners*, who had received in a Course of several Years numberless Injuries and Insults in their Fishery, made

made use of this Opportunity to dispossess them of the whole, and in the Year 1654 a Fleet was sent from *New England*, which, in the then Confusion of the Country, met with very little Difficulty in reducing the Western and Southern Divisions, and having secured *La Heve*, *Port Royal*, *St. John's River*, and *Pentagoet*, returned home, not extending their Views so far as to *Cbedabouctou*, which they were satisfied lay at too great a Distance to give *them* any Disturbance.

In making this Conquest the *Bostoners* look'd no farther than the Concerns of their own Interest, and having driven these Disturbers of their Trade out of that Part of the Country which lies nearest to *New England*, and by this Means secured to themselves quiet Enjoyment of the Fishery, left the *French* in Possession of the other Part, which was of equal Importance to their Mother Kingdom.

By this impolitic Step the whole was lost not long after, in the Year 1664, by the Treaty of *Breda*, For the *French* finding themselves at that Treaty in Possession of one half of the Country, were encouraged by it to pretend a Claim to the whole, which was accordingly granted to them under the specious Name of a Restitution. The Act for which was signed at *Boston* by Sir *W. Temple*

to the *French* Governor of *Canada* in the Year 1670.

'Tis worth observing, that in executing this Restitution Sir *William* hesitated a little about giving up *Pentagoet*, which he alledg'd was not mentioned in the Treaty; but the Answer was, that a particular Recital of the Names of Places in the Treaty was both tedious and unnecessary, since it was well known the Limits of that Province extended from *Kinibequi* to the River of *St. Lawrence*; and in Pursuance of this Interpretation a Governor being appointed this Year by the *French* King over this Part of *New France*, his Government is ordained to extend from *Kinibequi* to the said River, over all the Country between those Limits, conformable (these are the Words of the Patent,) to the Possession taken of this Country in the Name of *Lewis XIII. Anno 1630*. So careful have the *French* always shewn themselves as often as it served their Purposes, in preserving the antient Limits of *Nova Scotia*!

Thus the *French* having negotiated themselves once more into the Possession of *Acadie*, at last pitch'd upon an easy and sure Method of securing it from another Revolution. The Scheme was laid by the great *Colbert*, then Intendant of the Marine in *France*, who had projected a Design to  
open

open a Road to *Pentagoest* and *St. John's River* from *Quebec*, so that a continual Intercourse might be carried on this Way between the two Provinces, by which Means in case of any Disturbance or Invasion from the *English*, Assistance might arrive from *Canada* Time enough to prevent any irretrievable Mischief.

Mr. *Colbert* had this Affair much at Heart, and to carry it into Execution sent one of the Commissaries of the Marine to make an exact Survey of every Part of the Country, which was accordingly executed with all possible Diligence: But the People of *Canada* being at that Time forced into a War with the *Iroquois Indians*, this, together with a pestilential Distemper, which swept off vast Numbers of the Inhabitants, prevented, happily for *England*, any further Progress towards compleating this Project.

As we are much indebted to this War of the *Iroquois*, which made a Diversion so favourable for us, it will not be amiss to give an Account of the Rise and Occasion of it.

One *Dupuys*, a *French* Officer, having transplanted a Colony of *French* into a Village of these *Indians*, there happened some Time after a Fray to arise between some *Indians* and the *French*, wherein three

of the latter were kill'd. In order to procure Satisfaction for this Outrage, *Dupuy's* caused all the *Iroquois* in the Village to be put under an Arrest, of which their Countrymen getting Advice, assembled together and surrounded the Village in such Numbers, that the *French* were in no Condition to hazard a Battle, and, in short, had no Way left to save their Lives but by Flight, and here too every Avenue for escaping seem'd to be block'd up. But, however, it was at last effected by the following very singular Stratagem.

One of the Methods the *French* had, on their first settling in these Parts, made use of to wriggle themselves into the Confidence of the *Indians*, was to give their Children in Adoption to some of the most considerable Chiefs among them. These Adoptions were very frequent, and, among other Benefits common to them with those amongst the *Romans*, had this particular Advantage, that the Priviledges of the adopted Son were never attainted by Means of any War wherein the Fathers might take different Sides. Upon which Occasion these Children were oftentimes of great Service to their natural Fathers among the *French*, and perhaps never more than in the Case before us.

One of these adopted Babes of Grace seeing his Countrymen brought to the Brink of Destruction, went to his adopted Father, and told him, he was very much troubled with a great longing to have one of those kinds of Feasts where it was ordained that all the Victuals prepared should be entirely consumed. He therefore made it his fond Request, that his Father would make such a Feast for the whole Village; declaring withal, that if any the least Morfel should be left undevoured, he verily believed he should not be able to survive it. The tender-hearted harmless Savage replied, that he was extremely sorry for his Child's Disorder, and could not endure the Thoughts of seeing him die upon any Account as long as it was in his Power to save his Life: At the same Time assuring him, that he would give Orders for such an Entertainment to be prepared whenever his Son pleased, that he would also charge himself with the Care of making the necessary Invitations to the Guests, and engaged his Word that the Company should not leave the least Scrap of any Thing unswallowed. Upon this Promise the Younger fixt the 19th of *March* for the Feast-day, that being the Day agreed on by the *French* to make their Escape.



In the close of the Evening the Feast began, and in order to give the *French* an Opportunity of getting Boats, which they had built privately for that Purpose, near the Water, and putting their Effects into them, the Drums and Trumpets never ceased playing in the loudest Strains round the Hall where the Feast was held. As soon as the *French* had got every Thing in readiness to go off, the young Man, on receiving the Signal agreed on, went to his Father, and told him, he could not help taking Compassion of the Guests, the greatest Part of whom had already begg'd for Quarter, and desired to be excused any further stuffing; saying he was willing they should leave the Victuals, and go to repose themselves, and engaged to throw them all into an agreeable Sleep. The Guests readily accepting this Kindness; he took up his Guitarre and play'd so fine a Lulla-by, that there was presently not a Soul of the *Indians* but what was fast and sound asleep. As soon as the Sharper had, with his Musick, charm'd them all into the Condition he desired, while they all lay *sonna vinoque sepulti*, he stole away, and went to join his Countrymen on board the little Fleet of Boats, which lost no Time in making their Escape to their Friends at *Montreal* \*.

\* Next to *Quebec*, the principal Town in *Canada*.

The *French*, for the Reasons already mentioned, not being in a Condition to take care of *Acadie*, in the Year 1674 it fell into the Hands of a single Adventurer, who being conducted to *Pentagoet* by a *New England* Pilot, attack'd the Place with only a Handful of Men, which was in so weak a Condition, that the Governor having the Misfortune to be shot through the Body, the Garrison, after an Hour's Resistance, surrendered Prisoners at Discretion. After this he sent a Detachment to *St. John's River* to bring away the Commandant of the Fort at *Jemset*, who met with no Resistance in executing their Orders. Thus all *Nova Scotia*, of which these two Forts were at that Time the whole Defence, lay at the Mercy of the *English*.

But this Enterprize not being countenanc'd by the Court of *England*, these two Forts were delivered up to the *French* not long after; at which Time a new Governor being appointed over *Acadie* in the same Extent of it as had been claimed by the Treaty of *Breda*, his Residence was fixed at *Port Royal*; which was now made the Metropolis of the whole Province.

After the surrendering of *Pentagoet*, the *Bostoners*, in order to cover their new Settlements

ments on this Side from the Irruptions of the *Indians*; found it necessary to build a strong Fort at *Pemkuit*, a small Headland lying in the Middle between *Kinibequi* and *Pentagoet*. This was done without any Disturbance from their *Indian* Neighbours, for they being engaged in a War with the *Iroquois*, had been oblig'd to enter into an Accommodation with the *English*, who took this Opportunity of securing themselves from the ill Designs of the *French*, by seizing *Pentagoet*, *St. John's River*, and *Port Royal*, Anno 1680, when the *English* were a fifth Time Masters of *Nova Scotia*.

In the Year 1686, King *James II.* sign'd a Neutrality with *Lewis XIV.* for all *North America*; in Consequence of which the *French* took the two Forts into their Hands again: But this Treaty not being understood by the *English* to extend to *Pentagoet*, the Governor of *New England* dispossessed them of that Fort the Year after, *viz.* in 1687, and the Boundaries of *New England*, on this Side, were then fix'd at the River *St. Croix*. The Revolution that happened next Year in *England*, and the War with *France* in consequence of it, prevented this Place being delivered up again to the *French*, who were in no Condition to effect it by Force.

*Mais*

*Mais au defaut de la Force il faut employer la ruse.* There happened at this Time to be a little Chapel in a Village near *Pentagoet*, over which resided an Ecclesiastic of great Zeal in the Ministry, and a good Workman in making Converts. In short, he was a Man of a shrewd Wit, and very adroit in managing the Spirits of the *Indians*. This true Father of the Order of *Jesus* foreseeing the imminent Danger that threatened his Craft from the regular Approaches made by the *English* on this Side, especially from their Fort at *Pemkuit*, thought fit, though he knew these *Indians* were then at Peace with the *English*, to convene all the Savages within his Mission into the above-mentioned Chapel, and there with a melancholly Countenance, and in the most moving Terms, he set forth to them the restless Ambition of their usurping Neighbours, who were continually making Encroachments upon their Borders, and invading their Properties. He told them it was high Time they should put a Stop to the Progress of these Hereticks, and exhorted them by all the Ties of Religion and Liberty to assert their own Independancy, and ascertain to themselves the Possession of that Country, their undoubted Right and ancient Inheritance, concluding with this *Master-stroke* of his Art, that while they were employ'd in the noble and necessary Work

of vindicating their just Rights, and saving the Lives of their Wives and Children, these should establish a perpetual *Rosary* in the Chapel, and pray incessantly, Day and Night; for their Success in this righteous Cause.

This Stratagem did not fail to have its desired Effect upon the Savages, and a Hundred chosen Men among them assembling in the Chapel, made there a Vow at the Altar to march to *Pemkuit*, and not to return 'till they had driven the *English* out of that Fort. This Resolve was carried into Execution, and being possessed in the Manner just mention'd with a kind of desperate Brutality, they forced the Governor to a Capitulation, notwithstanding the Fort mounted 18 Cannon, and had a strong Garrison. This Expedition was quickly followed by another, wherein the Savages about *St. John's River* and *Pentagoet* rising in great Numbers march'd to *Kini-bequi*, about which River the *English* had no less than fourteen small Forts, in tolerable good Condition; all these they carried by Surprize, kill'd 200 Persons, and brought away a considerable Booty. Thus, by the sole Engineery of a Father of the Mission, the *French* made themselves Masters of this Coast, at a Time when they were not able to raise fifty Men for their own Defence \*. This, it is

\* About this Time they had applied for Assistance to the King of France, and receiv'd an Answer purporting his Majesty's Inability to send them any.

obvious, was the true Reason why they begun about this Time to talk of *Acadie* and *Nova Scotia* in a more restrained Sense than hitherto they had done; Want of Power to preserve the Coast from *Pentagoet* to *Kinibequi* to themselves, obliged them to call it the Country of the *Abenagois Indians*. Thus by a necessary *Politique* they sacrificed that Part for a Peace-Offering to the *Indians*, in order to make a *Barrier* of it to save the rest.

This perfidious Conduct of the *French* so much intrag'd the Colony at *Boston*, that King *William's* War breaking out at that Time, Governor *Phipps* resolv'd to make an absolute Conquest of the whole Province, and put it out of their Power to give him any Disturbance for the future.

To compleat this Design, three small Ships of Force, two Bomb Vessels, and Transports, with eight Hundred Land Forces on board, were got ready with all possible Dispatch. With this Fleet the Governor came before *Port-Royal*, which surrendered without any Opposition upon the following Terms: *First*; That the Governor and Garrison should be allow'd to march out with their Arms and Baggage, and have a Vessel provided to carry them to *Quebec*. *2dly*, The Inhabitants of the Town should remain in the quiet Possession of their Estates and Effects, and that no Violence should be offer'd to their Wives and Daughters. *3dly*, That the free Exercise of  
their

their Religion should be permitted to them, and that the Church should be preserv'd inviolate.

But *Phipps* entering the Fort, there discovered several Concealments and Embezzlements, in manifest Violation of the Articles agreed on. The General, provoked by this unmilitary Proceeding, immediately seiz'd the *French* Governor, taking him and Eighty-eight Soldiers, with a Couple of *Missionaries* Prisoners of War; but before he left the Place he convened the Inhabitants, and oblig'd them to acknowledge upon Oath King *William* and Queen *Mary* to be rightful Possessors of the Crown of *England*. This being done, he made his *premiere Sergeant* Governor, appointing six of the principal Inhabitants for his Council.

From hence he went to *La Heve*, which he took Possession of, and after a few Days Stay there he proceeded to *Cbedaboutou*, where the Garrison making a gallant Defence, he granted these People the same Terms as he did at first to those of *Port Royal*, and transported the Commandant to *Placentia* in *Newfoundland*, which was another Part of his District. Having settled every Thing here, to his Satisfaction, he set Sail for the *Gaspé Coast*, where falling in with a small Island call'd the *Needle's Eye*, near that Cape, he there plundered and ruin'd the only Settlement the *French* had on that Coast. Thus  
having,

having, as he imagined, reduced the whole Province to a State of Subjection and Tranquility, he proceeded to *Quebec*; but meeting there with a Repulse, he was oblig'd to return home without compleating his whole Design.

The Governor's ill Success upon the *Canada* River revived the Spirits of the *Nova Scotians*, and they soon recovered all that he had taken from them.

While the *New England* Fleet lay at *La Heve*, one Capt. *Villebon*, who had a Company at *Nova Scotia*, happened to arrive from *France* at *Port Royal*, where, finding the Place in the Hands of the Enemy, which was so near him, removed cross the Bay to *Jemfit*, on *St. John's River*, carrying what was left of the Garrison of *Port Royal* aboard with him. The Captain arrived safe at *Jemfit*, but leaving his Ship at the Mouth of the River, she was taken in the mean Time by the *English*, and carried away with all her Cargoe.

Soon after this *Villebon* returned to *France*, where representing to his Court the Importance, as well as Facility, of recovering *Acadie* out of the Hands of the *English*, he undertook to effect the Thing with the Help of the *Indians* alone, without any Assistance from the Crown, if it should please his Majesty to appoint him Commandant of the Country. This Petition being well receiv'd,

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he had a Commission made out for him in pursuance of it, and a Letter was put into his Hands for the Governor General of *Quebec*, in which was signified, that his Majesty being informed of the Attachment of the *Abaneguicis Indians* to his Service, and also of their Courage and Enterprizes against the *English*, and being desirous to maintain the Possession of *Acadie* by the Assistance of those brave People, did hereby enjoin him to furnish them with Arms and Ammunition, and such other warlike Stores as had been applied for by the *Sieur Villebon*, sending them to their own Houses and Places of Abode, it being his Majesty's Intention not to give them the Trouble of fetching these Necessaries themselves from *Quebec*.

With these Powers *Villebon* return'd thither, and being supplied with every Thing according to his Majesty's Orders, he set Sail for *Port Royal*. In his Passage the *Frenchman* fell in with a *New England Ship*, and took her. She proved to be the Vessel that was carrying an *English Governor* to *Nova Scotia*, whose Name was *Tyne*, whom *Villebon* sent to *Quebec*.

Being arriv'd at *Port-Royal*, he entered the Place without seeing the Face of an Enemy, and found the *English Standard* upon the Fort, without so much as a single *Englishman* to guard it. He pull'd it down therefore, and next Day assembling all the Inhabitants

bitants of the Place, he set up the *French* Standard, and took Possession in Form of *Port Royal*, and all *Acadie*, in his Majesty's Name, *Anno*, 1691. However, not having a sufficient Force of *French* to maintain this Port, he retir'd again to *Nexoat*, upon *St. John's* River, waiting for the Succours which were promised to be sent from *France* to put *Port-Royal* once more into a defensible State.

In the mean time the *Abenquois* stimulated by the Condescension and Generosity of their Ally the King of *France*, committed prodigious Spoil and Rapine in *New-England*, desolating the Country for the Compass of Fifty Leagues. *Phipps* well-knowing the true Author and Fountain of all this Mischief, as well as the weak and indefensible State he was in at that time, dispatched privately a single Ship to surprize *Villebon*, and carry him away from his Fort. But the Ship being descried at some Distance, a Detachment of *French* and *Indians* were sent to the small Fort at the Mouth of the River, where the Captain of the Ship finding them lodged and expecting him, thought proper to retire without hazarding the Disgrace of a Defeat, and thus the Attempt miscarried.

However, *Phipps* was consoled in some measure for that Loss, by the gaining of *Pemkuit*, which was taken this Year, by a Party of new Settlers on that Side of *New-England*. And *Villebon* also met with

a Rebuke before this Fort, soon after; for two Sloops being sent from *France* next Year 1692 to *Quebec*, upon another Project which they arrived too late to effect, that they might not return home without doing something, it was agreed they should attack *Pemkuit* by Sea, while *Villebon* besieged it by Land; but the Sloops coming within a small Distance of the Place, found an *English* Man of War lying at Anchor under the Cannon of the Fort, at which Sight they thought fit to steer another Course.

The State of this Country remained in this Situation for some time; the *English* appeared to have little to fear, and desired nothing more than to remain in the quiet Possession of their Habitations, and to pursue their Trade. With this pacific Intention *Phipps* had, by Presents and Promises engaged the *Indians* to enter into Preliminary Articles, for a Treaty of Peace and Accommodation with the *English*, and the Matter was brought so near to a happy Issue, that in 1694, two of the *Indian* Chiefs had appointed to meet the Governour, or his proper Deputy, in order to settle the definitive Treaty. In Pursuance to this Agreement, *Phipps*, having first taken Hostages, went in Person to accelerate the Conclusion of an Affair of so great Importance.

Nothing could have defeated a Design of so good a Tendency, and so ripe for Execution, but the ever waking Vigilance and rest-

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less Industry of Mr. *Thury*, the Missionary at *Pentagoet*, already so much distinguished. This Man of God found out the Secret of drawing one of the Chiefs off from his most solemn Engagements with the *English*; and not content with this, tho' that Chief had already declared on the Side of Peace, yet he wrought so powerfully upon his Spirit, that this very *Sagamora* raised a Party of two Hundred and fifty *Indians* about *Pentagoet* and *St. John's River*, and being joined with some Auxiliaries, of another Mission in the Neighbourhood, these Braves march'd with one *Villieu* a *Frenchman* at their Head, and penetrating to the River *Pescadou* not above twelve Leagues from *Boston*, they slew Two Hundred and fifty *New Englandmen*, and burnt fifty or sixty Houses.

After which, a Party of them marched farther into the Country, and in three Days came up to a Fort within the Purlieu of *Boston*, and carrying the Place, committed great Cruelties and Devastations in the Country, up to the very Gates of that Capital.

These Outrages and Insults, at a Time when Things seem'd to be in a State of general Tranquility, so enrag'd the *Bostoners*, that not suspecting the Snake in the Grass, they laid the Fault upon the Governour, and great Murmurings were rais'd against him on this Account. Wherefore, to appease the Populace, as well as to procure Satisfaction for these

these Injuries, *Phipps* resolved to repair to *Pemkuit* a second Time. Upon his Arrival, he sent a Message to those Chiefs who had entered into the former Treaty, requiring two of their People who had been concern'd in the Attack of the first Fort, signifying to them, that unless this Demand was complied with, he should look upon them all as Accomplices in the late Hostilities committed against the Law of Nations, at a Time when they had given their Word Nothing of That Kind should be attempted ; adding that he was in a Condition at *Pemkuit*, to revenge the Perfidy.

These Menaces threw the *Indians* into no small Embarrassment; They had given Hostages to the General, and their Relations were Prisoners at *Boston* ; the long expected Succours from *France* were not yet arrived, and the *French* Fleet, which lately came upon the Coast of *Acadie*, had tacked about and were gone off, which manifestly shewed the Superiority of the *English*. All these Circumstances put the Savages upon serious Reflections, and staggered their Resolution so much, that they began to balance what Side to take ; at last, the greatest Part of them declared their Opinion, that they ought to send their Excuses to the Governor of *New England* for what was past, and to assure him that, for the future, he should have no reason to complain of them.

Thus

Thus the *French* were once more upon the Point of loosing their Barrier, and themselves with it, when the redoubtable Father *Thury*, who had saved his Country twice before, out of the Jaws of the Lion, stept in at this critical Juncture, and a third Time averted the impending Ruin.

Being advertized of the Mischief that was brewing against them, he ran about to all the Chiefs, rous'd the Courage of such as were intimidated, and inflamed the Spirits of the most cautious and wary amongst them, setting before their Eyes the dreadful Abyfs into which they were going to precipitate themselves, by receiving into their Arms a Nation whose Want of Faith they had so often of late experienced, to whom they had already done too much Mischief ever to be forgiven by them, and who, in short, stood in fear of them so much, as to make it a Point of their *Politique*, utterly to destroy and exterminate them as soon as they should find them no longer supported by the *French*.

Wherefore, in the present Exigency, he counselled them to shew a fair Face, and amuse the common Enemy with specious Promises 'till they had got in their Harvest; which done, he said, the People might withdraw into their Retreats in the Woods, whether it would be impossible for the *English* to follow them. This Advice was well relished, and as well executed by the *Indians*,  
and

and Mr. *Villieu*, afore-mentioned, at the same time engaged with several of the Chiefs to follow him to *Quebec*, where they presented the Governour-General, with the Heads of the *English*, whom they had slain at *Pescadoué*, and renewed their Protestations of an inviolable Fidelity to him.

Sometime after this, in the Year 1695 Seven of these Chiefs, at the Instigation of the *French*, came to *Pemkuit* with a white Flag, and, demanded to have their Hostages and Prisoners restored, but when the Authors of the lately mentioned Ravages were required in Exchange by the Garrison, the *Indians* went away, loudly singing to Arms, and vowing they would do the *English* all the Mischief that lay in their Power.

And the next Year, 1696, two Men of War arriving from *France*, with orders to attack *Pemkuit*, they were joined by several Hundred of these *Indians* under *French* Leaders, who were the chief Means of their surrendering the Fort to the *French*; for the Governor, one *Chubb*, well knowing the merciless Brutality of these Savages, finding himself over-power'd with Numbers, was induced to capitulate upon these Terms, That himself and Garrison should be convoy'd to *Boston*, and exchanged against the *French* and Savages who were Prisoners there; and that, in executing this, they should have a *sufficient Guard* to secure them against the  
Fury

Fury of the Savages. This done, the *French* entered the Fort, dismantled it, and laid it in Ruins.

These two *French* Men of War, who had in their Passage taken the *Newport*, an *English* Sloop of 24 Guns, were in their Return from *Pemkuit* chased by an *English* Fleet of seven Sail, which they escaped by keeping close to the Shore. The *English* continued their Course towards *Nova Scotia*, and coming to an Anchor before *Beaubassin* or *Cognitou*, they burnt the Town to Ashes, and forced the Inhabitants to acknowledge upon Oath King *William* and Queen *Mary* to be lawful Sovereigns of *Great Britain*. The Fleet proceeded afterwards to *St. John's River*, but meeting with a Rebuke before Fort *Nexoat*, they return'd to *Boston*.

The Peace of *Ryswic* being concluded next Year, *Anno* 1697, Commissaries were appointed, in Pursuance to that Treaty, for settling the Limits between *Nova Scotia* and *New England*, which were then fix'd by them at *St. George's River*, lying between *Pemkuit* and *Pentagoet*, this was executed by proper Deputies in *North America* in the Year 1700.

The *French* having a third Time shuffled themselves into Possession of *Nova Scotia*, a proper Person was sent to review and settle the State of the Country, and Fort *Nexoat* at *St. John's River* being found so far from  
being



being sufficient for the Security of the whole Province, that it was not able to defend the few *French* Habitations along its Banks, it was thought proper to remove the Garrison to *Port Royal*.

In 1701, it was so confidently talk'd at the Court of *Versailles*, that His Majesty had come to a Resolution to make a solid and firm Establishment at *Acadie*, by peopling and fortifying the Country, that the Bishop of *Quebec*, who was at that time in *France*, enter'd into an Agreement with some of the Seminaries there for furnishing the Province, on that Occasion, with a proper Corps of Ecclesiasticks. But Queen *Anne's* War breaking out while this Affair was negotiating, it put an End to that Scheme.

In the Year 1704 the *Bostoners* came again before *Port Royal*, but being repulsed there, went up the Bay of *Minas* to *Pigignuit*, and afterwards proceeded to *Beaubassin*; from which Places they carried off about fifty Prisoners of both Sexes, and some Booty, but hardly sufficient to balance the Expence of the Expedition.

The ill Success of this Enterprize put the *French* again into high Spirits, who immediately set on their never-failing Tools the *Abenquois* Indians, to make fresh Irruptions into *New England*, where these People committed so many brutish and intolerable Cruelties, that Mr. *Dudley*, who was then Governor of *Boston*, resolved, if possible, to exterminate

terminate the *French*, the true Authors of all this Mischief out of *Nova Scotia*.

With this Design he prepared a very strong Armament, consisting in the whole of 21 Sail of Ships, with a sufficient Number of Forces on board, which were got ready with so much Diligence and Secrecy, that the first Notice which the Garrison at *Port Royal* had of it was the Sight of the Fleet at the Entrance of the *Basin*. Nothing could have defeated an Enterprize so well concerted; but some Jealousies that arose between the Sea and Land Forces, who being carried to the Attack in this ill Humour, were easily put into Disorder, and oblig'd to retire. The Fleet in its Return stopt at *Pascadaue*, upon the Borders of *New England*, whence the General dispatch'd a Messenger to acquaint Mr. *Dudley* with this Misfortune, and the true Cause of it. The Governor, inflam'd with this Disgrace, prepared an Armament stronger than the first, who made a second Attempt that same Year on the same Place, but with no better Success than the first, chiefly occasioned by the Misunderstanding which still continued between the Fleet and the Army.

After this Mr. *Dudley* repaired to *England*, where he represented the ill State of Affairs in these Parts, especially since these two last Miscarriages, and the Ministry being convinc'd of the Necessity of doing something that should be decisive in *Nova Scotia*,

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determin'd

determin'd, at any Expence, to send thither a Force that should be sufficient to effectuate the absolute Conquest of the whole Province.

In consequence of this Resolution a Fleet was equip'd, consisting of four Ships of sixty Guns, two of forty, and one of thirty-six accompanied with three Thousand Land Forces, under the Command of General *Nicolson*, who came before *Port Royal* in 1710. Notwithstanding this strong Armament, the Fort being greatly assisted by the Savages, held out for twelve Days, and at last surrendered upon the same Terms that had been granted by *Phipps* in 1690.

The *Indians* now began to grow cool towards their old Friends and Allies. The taking of *Port Royal*, in the Defence of which all their Strength had been exerted, had at last opened their Eyes, and they found, that the Notion which had been always carefully instilled into them of the Superiority of the *French*, proved only an empty Amusement. The *French* seeing them in this dangerous Position, dispatch'd a Courier to *Quebec* to inform the Governor-General of it, and set before him the Necessity of sending a proper Force for the recovering of *Acadie*, the Loss of which, they said, would soon be followed by that of *Canada*, and all *New France*, assuring him withal, that they had only submitted to the *English* for Fear of being disturbed

sturbed in getting in their Harvest; but that they still retained an inviolable Attachment for their natural Prince, who had not better Subjects than they were in any Part of his Dominions.

The Governor-General not having it in his Power to do better, sent them a Couple of Missionaries, provided with suitable Cordials to revive the drooping Spirits of the Savages; and these two Gentlemen laboured the Point with so much Diligence and Success, that they presently brought them into a proper Temper for revolting. Animated with this Success in recovering the *Indians*, the *French* refused to comply with the Terms which had been made at the surrendering of the Fort, and the Garrison seeing them persist in their Obstinacy, sent a Detachment of sixty Men, with an Engineer, and six other Officers under the Command of the Major of the Place, in order to force them to a Compliance; but forty *Indians* getting Notice of the Design, march'd thro' the Woods, and falling upon them at a narrow Pass in the River, kill'd every Man of them, not leaving so much as a Man to carry the News to *Port Royal*.

The *French* being encouraged by their Success, assembled together to the Number of five Hundred, and being joined by a great many *Savages*, invested the Fort; at the same Time they dispatch'd a Messenger to Mr.

*Costobelle*, the Governour of *Placentia*, in *Newfoundland*, requesting only an Officer to be at the Head of them, and they engaged to reduce the Fort, and all *Acadie*, without any farther Assistance. But Mr. *Costobelle* having Work enough for his Officers where he was, could not answer their Demand, and for Want of a proper Commander to lead them on, they were forc'd to retire.

Soon after this, in the Year 1712, was signed the Peace of *Utrecht*; by which a perpetual Cession is made to *England* of *Acadie*, or *Nova Scotia*, in its full Extent, according to its *ancient Limits*, together with *Port Royal*, now called *Annapolis Royal*, and all its *Dependancies*; what those *Dependancies*; and what those *ancient Limits* are, I presume sufficiently appears from the Course of this History.

All this Part of the Continent upon *New England* to *St. Lawrence River* being now confirm'd to the *English* by Treaty, there was no Room to apprehend any further Disturbance from the *French*, and the *New England* People began to settle about the *River Kinibequi*, among the *Indians*, by whom they were not only freely admitted at first, but gladly received, on Account of the Benefit they received from the Intermixture, as well in the Article of Trade, as in the Improvement of their Minds and Manners; for the *English* built Schools in the Country  
for

for the Education of their *Youth*, and employ'd proper Pastors to instruct the *elder* Sort in the Principles of Morality and Religion.

Thus Things went on very smoothly for a while, but after some Years received a Check which was little suspected. There happened to be among these *Indians* one *Castin*, a *Mustee* from a *French* Father upon an *Indian* Woman. This Man had taken upon himself to be their Governor, and had great Influence and Authority with them on Account of the Proximity of his Blood on one Side, and the Superiority of his Extraction on the other. This Governor (for so he was in Effect) had always look'd with a malevolent Eye upon the growing State of the *English* on this Side, and resolv'd, if possible, to nip it in the Bud: For this Purpose he infused into the *Indians* a Jealousy of their new Hosts, from the Numbers which, he said, they might observe were continually creeping in amongst them, assuring them, they only waited for an Opportunity of picking a Quarrel in order to destroy them all. The *Indians*, naturally jealous of all the *Europeans* in this Particular, needed no other Incentive, and presently began to parly with the *English* for settling and building Forts upon their Lands. To this it was answered, that the King of *France* had given up that Country for ever to the Crown of *England*.

Startled

Startled and piqued with this News, they immediately betook themselves to the Governor-General of *Canada*, being determined to expostulate the Matter with him, but he well understanding their Foible, easily pacified them, and sent them away well contented with this Answer, That the Treaty of *Utrecht* made no mention of their Country; an Evasion which 'tis no wonder they had not Eyes enough to see into; on the contrary, they took the Words in their plain and undisguised Sense. After this, the *Indians* grew very troublesome, and began to pilfer the Cattle that belonged to the *English*, who knowing the shortest Way of putting an End to this Proceeding, would be to secure some of them, and keep them as Hostages for the good Behaviour of the rest, took that Method with them.

Nettled with this Piece of Justice, the above-mentioned *Castin* spirited them up to a Revolt, and acting in a *double* Capacity, both as Governor of the Country for the King of *France*, and Chief *Sagamo* among the *Indians*, he appeared at the Head of a numerous Body of them, and demanded their Hostages to be released. The *English* fixing their Eyes upon the Leader, in the first Place secured him, and after keeping him several Months Prisoner, obliged him for his own Safety to go (happily for himself) and take possession of a good paternal Estate at *Bearn* in *France*.

The

The only Incendiary that was left after *Castin*, was a Missionary named *Rafle*, who had been let alone hitherto, on account, of the Sacredness of his Character and Office, but finding him, at this Juncture, very busy in sowing in secret the Seeds of Sedition, and opposing their Clergy, who made it their Business chiefly to instill into the *Indians* the first Principles of Virtue and Common Honesty, and had treated with Indignation the Doctrine of Sacraments, Purgatory, Invocation of Saints, and all those Practices that are to supply the Place of true Piety and Religion in the Romish Church, this apostolical Preacher of Sedition, and Seducer of the People, was taken and hang'd up, as being *Pessimus Hostis humani Generis*, a Violator of the Law of Nations, and a Perverter of the Gospel of Christ.

While these Things were transacting in *North America*, the King of *France*, to make a Shew of doing something for these *Indians*, pretended to find a Flaw in the Words of the Treaty of *Utrecht*, with regard to the Limits of *Nova Scotia*, and Commissaries were named by both Crowns, in the Year 1719, to adjust that Difference ; but the *French* having made use of these Tools of their Politicks while they could be of any Service to them, now plainly shewed they had never been the real Object of their Care, for these Commissaries



missaries never met, and the *Affair* died away without any farther Notice.

In the Year 1720, Col. *Rickards* was appointed Governor of *Newfoundland*, and *Nova Scotia*, where, being justly offended with the pert and saucy Behaviour of the *French* Inhabitants, he had a mind to bring them into better Manners, and began by forbidding them all Commerce with the Island of *Cape Breton*. After which, he ordered that they should all within a limited Time acknowledge themselves Freeholders under the Crown of *Great Britain*. But they immediately assembled together, and let the Governor know, that they look'd upon themselves to be independent on the *Crown* of *England*, and held the Title to their Lands by a Grant from the King of *France*, their lawful Sovereign; and that if he proceeded to push them to Extremities, he should find them Savages in Reality.

Before this, and soon after the Peace of *Utrecht*, they had furnished the Colony of *Cape Breton* with Wives for the better peopling of that Island: And lately, in the Year 1746, being assisted by Monsieur *Junquiere*, who succeeded to the Command of the *French* Fleet, after *D'Anville's* Death, they made a dangerous Attack upon the *New England* Auxiliaries, at *Minas*; so that upon all Occasions they have made good their Words given in 1711, to the Governor of *Quebec*,  
that

*that notwithstanding they had been obliged to submit, out of Necessity, to the English, for their present Safety, yet His Majesty of France, had not better Subjects than they were in any Part of his Dominions.*

However, at present, they profess themselves to be in a State of Neutrality between the Two Crowns ; but the establishing of a civil Government there, conformable to His Majesty's gracious Intention, is the only Method of bringing them under a proper Regulation, and convincing them of the Difference between a *legal Toleration* and an *established Independency*.

The Importance of the Country being sufficiently demonstrated in the foregoing Narrative, let us turn our Eyes towards the new Settlers, and examine what Encouragement there is for them to leave their native Country, and transplant themselves thither.

This Point turns upon two Articles, first, what Products are to be met with there ; as also what others the Soil is kindly for producing towards their Support on their Arrival ; and in the next Place, what are the Commodities there by which they may expect to improve, and advance their Fortunes hereafter.

With Regard to the first, It is a great Encouragement to them that the Produce in clearing the Land will easily be converted into Ship Timber, Planks, Masts, Deal-Boards,  
 N Shingles.

Shingles, Staves and Hoops, besides Pot-ashes; which being carried to Market will furnish them, in return, with Horses, Cattle, Hogs and other Necessaries, to stock the Land when subdued. After which, all they have to do, is to raise Corn and Grass to feed the Stock; in which Culture they will find the Soil generally so fertile as abundantly to answer the Pains bestowed upon it. In the mean time the *Indians*, for a few Beads, and other such Trifles, will supply them with every thing that the Woods and Waters afford.

What these are, I have already mentioned, and shall only add some few Fish which are peculiar to the Country, as first a *Flettou*, a flat Fish, like a *Plaice*, but five Feet long; the Head is a Dainry. Another, called *Lancornet*, being a Species of the *Cuttle-Fish*; it is good Eating dressed any way but makes all the Sauce as black as Ink; there is also the *Goberge*, the *Sea-Plaice*, the *Requiem*, the *Dog-Fish*. Add to this, that the Lakes abound with large *Salmon-Trout*, and *Tortoisés*.

There are several Lakes, the chief of which is that of *Rossignol*, being irregularly round 'tis three Leagues across; it lies at the Head of that River, and near to a small Lake, from which runs a small River down to *Port-Royal*. There are three other Lakes in the Marshes, near the *French* Settlements about the Bottom of the Bay of *Minas*, and a sixth  
 lies

lies at the Head of the River *Antigouche*; about thirty Miles from *Chedabouctou*. There are also several on *St. John's River*, and that of *Ristigouche*.

*The Forests* are not so well peopled with Fowls as the Lakes and Rivers are with Fish, yet neither do these want their Merit. *Partridge* and *Crows*, both the Red and Black Game, are found here; as also *Snipes* and some *Woodcocks*; but these last are very rare. And besides what have been taken notice of above, here are *Cygnets*, *Turkeys*, *Moorhens*, *Geese* and *Cranes* both the White and the Grey Sort; these are indeed finewy, and coarse eating from the Spit, but make excellent *Bouilli*. *Pidgeons*, *Sparrows*, *Larks* fly about in Plenty: But what excells all, is the *Ortolan*, justly so called from its delicate Flavour. This Bird is the first Harbinger of the Spring, for as soon as the Snow begins to resolve, and leave the Ground here and there open in some few Patches, they crowd in large Flocks upon it, and you may kill as many as you please. The Cock Bird, tho' Ash-coloured on his Back, yet, because he has a White Belly, goes by the Name of *The White Bird*; he is the best Singer, and has the sweetest Note of any of the feather'd Family that gladden these Woods; for the *Nightingale* here has but half his own Note, the other half is shared by the little *Wren*.

But of this Species, the greatest Curiosity here is the *Humming-Bird*; of this there are two Sorts, one of which is Littleness itself, being, with all its Feathers, no bigger than a *Lady-Bird*. The other makes a strong Tingling in your Ears, like the Buz of a *Blue Bottle Fly*, which he does not much exceed in Size, his Claws, being about an Inch long, look like so many fine Needles; his Beak is the same, which however is but a Case to another much finer, which he unsheaths and darts into the Bottom of Flowers, to suck their Honey, which is his Food. In short, this Creature deserves to be called, Dame Nature's Trinket; he carries a most beautiful Black Tuft upon his Crown, his Breast glows with a rose coloured Red, under which appears a Belly white as Milk; his Back, Wings and Tail are of a Rose Bush Green, enriched with a refulgent Shade of Gold, and an imperceptible Down throws over the whole Plumage, an undulating Softness and Bloom, which is inexpressibly delicate.

I am not writing the Natural History of this Country; and therefore, with regard to *Reptiles*, I shall just mention only the *Rattle Snake*, which is seen here as in other Parts of *North America*, and too well known to need any Description. I shall only take Notice, that he is naturally shy, and never attacks a Passenger unless he be irritated. His Bite is very venomous, and was esteem'd incurable

curable till, not many Years ago, in these Parts was luckily discovered a Plant, from its Use called the *Rattle-Snake Plant*, which bruised, and laid upon the Wound in the Form of a Poullice, proves an Antidote to the Poison. This Plant is easily distinguished, and I shall not think much to give a Description of it : The Stalk is round, and rises with a Bulk a little bigger than that of Goose Quill to the Height of three or four Foot, where it is culminated by a yellow Flower of a sweet Smell, and in Shape and Size like a common single *Daisy*. The Leaves, which are a very narrow Oval, are supported by a Pedicle about an Inch long growing out of the Joints of the Stalk over-against each other by Five and Five, in the Form of a *Turkey-foot*.

In an uninhabited Country there is little Danger of Want of Wood and Timber enough for Building. This is the Use of Trees after they are felled ; but they likewise serve another very good Purpose while standing, as they indicate the Nature and Quality of the Soil which they grow upon.

On approaching this Coast, the first Objects that strike your Eye are the *Pines*, the *Firrs*, and the *Cedars*. The *Pine* makes one Branch of the foreign Traffic of this Country, and is not much used otherwise. In this Place it falls under our Consideration only as an Indicator of the Soil where it  
grows.

grows, which is indeed very poor and unapt for producing any kind of Grain, being a Mixture of Gravel and Sand with Potters Clay.

The *Fir* here is of four Sorts. The first resembles ours; the three others are distinguished into the *White*, *Red*, and *Perusse*. The *White* and *Perusse* are fit for Ship-Masts, especially the *White*, which also makes very good Carpenters Ware when broke up. It grows commonly in unmixt Land, where the Soil is black, and when drained yields good Corn. The Wood of the *Red* is quite different from that of the *White*, being closer and massive, and makes good Beams in Buildings. This is found upon a Gravel mixed with Tobacco-pipe Clay. The *Perusse* bears the Weather best of any, and for that Reason is used in Paling and Enclosures. It loves a white Clay. From this is made the *Perusse*, or *Spruce-Beer*, so well known for its excellent Quality in healing Bruises both external and internal.

Here are two kinds of *Cedars*, *White* and *Red*. The first has the largest Body; it makes good Paling, but is mostly used for Shingles to cover Houses, on Account of its Lightness. The *Red* is neither so tall nor so large bodied as the *White*; but the most sensible Difference between them lies in the Smell. The last being in the Wood; whereas

whereas the first is only in the Leaves, which give a disagreeable Scent of strong Perfume. The *Cedar*, especially the *White*, indicates a very rich Loam.

The *Oak* is likewise classed into two Sorts, *White* and *Red*. The first is often found in low, moist Land, which is fertile, and kindly to produce all Sorts of Corn and Pulse. The *Red*, whose Wood is less valued, grows in a dry, gravelly, hungry Soil. Both bear Acorns alike.

The *Maple* is exceeding common in this Country, and furnishes the best Wood for Household Furniture, as Chairs, Tables, &c. The Sap of this Tree is used here as a Regale in their Entertainments. It is of a whitish Colour, but very clear, and is extremely refreshing and pleasant, leaving in the Mouth a sweetish agreeable Relish. It is also very salutary and pectoral. The *Indians* give it two or three Boilings, which bring it into a Syrop, and with a little more boiling and scumming it will go into the Consistence of Sugar, and serve very well for Kitchen Use. Perhaps it might be worth while to try if a good sort of Rum might not be drawn from it by the Still. There must needs be great Plenty of these Trees, for they supply the usual Fire Wood. The Sap runs from it by making a Hole near the Bottom of the Trunk, and the Tree yields best when the Ground



Ground is covered with Snow, and there has been a Frost over Night. The Season for Tapping is in *February* and *March*. It grows upon high Land; and such as is proper for Fruit Trees. The female Maple has all the Qualities of the male, but is of a paler Colour, and requires a moist rich Soil.

The *Wild Cherry*, by some called the *Mery Tree*, is found every where with the Maple, and other white Woods, and is also fit for House Utensils. It likewise yields a Sap sweetish like that of the Maple, but goes off the Tongue with a disagreeable Bitterness.

The *Ash* is met with among the Maples, and is particularly proper for dry Cask. There is also a mungrel Ash of the same Quality with the true, and grows only in low Land and rich Soil; as does likewise the third Sort called the *Bastard Ash*, which is nothing near so good Timber as the other two.

Here are reckoned three Sorts of Nut-Trees. The *hard*, *tender*, and a third with a very delicate Bark. The hard Sort produces a very small Nut good to eat, but hard of Digestion. The Wood of this is good for nothing else but the Fire. The Nut of the second sort is of an oval Form, larger than the first, which is difficult to crack; but the Kernel is excellent. The Wood of this

is not indeed so fine as our Walnut, but it is almost incorruptible either upon Land or in the Water, and it stands the Fire too a great while before it is corrupted. The Fruit of the third Sort is no bigger than that of the first, but the Tree is a better Bearer. The Nut is of a bitter Taste, but has a tender Shell, and yields abundance of excellent Oil, which is very sweet for burning in Lamps, and for a thousand other Occasions. To extract the Oil you only bruise the Nuts, and boil them in Water, when the Oil rising to the Top is readily scummed off. This Tree also yields a Sap of a more sugary Taste than the Maple, but it runs in small Quantities. This and the second Sort are never found but upon the best Soil.

The Country abounds with *Beech* in all Parts: You meet with them as well upon sandy Hills, as in low Land, and the richest Soil. They bear Mast abundantly, the Oil of which is well known in *England*.

Hete is a Tree called the *White Wood Tree*, which is seen among the Maples and wild Cherry Trees in great Abundance. It often grows to a large Size, and very streight, Planks and Boards are made of it, and sometimes it is used for dry Cask. It is a free easy Wood to work. The *Indians* cover their Huts with the Bark of it.

The *Elm* is likewise very common here, both the White and Red Sort, of which the

Red is harder to work but more durable. The Banks of all the Rivers are usually skirted with *Aspin*.

Among the Fruit Trees may be reckoned the *Elder* and the *Service*, and there are among the Bushes and thickest Woods a great Number of Plumb-Trees, but the Fruit is very sour. The *Vinegar Shrub* is a soft pithy Bush, and bears a sour Fruit of the Colour of Bull's Blood; these infused in Water make a kind of Vinegar. The *Pemine* is another Shrub growing on the Side of small Streams, which run dimpling among the Meadows. It bears Bunches of red Berries, which are very astringent like our Slough.

The *Black*, or *Vine of Mount of Ida*, is found here. The Berries are round like a Navel, have small Grains like a Grape, and the Juice is black, sweet and very well-relished. The *Indians* dry them as we do Cherries. They are of Use in the Bloody-Flux. The *Atoca* is another Fruit, with Seeds like an Apple or an Orange, but no bigger than a Cherry. The Plant creeps along the wet Marshes, and produces its Fruit in the Water. This is also a hard rough Fruit, but makes good Marmalade.

Currants and Gooseberries, Strawberries and Raspberries, are all Natives of this Country; as are also *Hops* and *Capillaire*, with a great many Physical Plants, as *Origonum*, *Valerian*, *Aconitum*, *Thalictrum*, *Agrimony*,

ny, Bellis, Sanguis-Draconis, Hedifaron, Angelica, Confolidum, Fumitory, and some others, whose Virtues may be found in the Dispensatories. Here is likewise a kind of Lychnis, or Afaron, which besides its medicinal Qualities, has this Use, you put a moderate Nodule of the fibrous Parts of the Root well peeled into a Pipe of Wine, and in three Months it gives the Liqueur an excellent Flavour.

The *Cypress* likewise is found here, and a kind of *Myrtle*, called from its Use the Candle-Myrtle. The Oil is extracted from the Berries of this Shrub, by the same Process as is related in the Oil Nut. This Oil, after a second Boiling, becomes of a bright, clear green, and hardens in cooling. It is rather too brittle by itself, but mixed with a little Tallow makes a beautiful Bougie, that burns exceeding fine.

Water - Cresses are indigenous; besides which the *Indians* generally raise Maize and *Indian* Corn, Kidney Beans, Pumpions, with Water and Musk Melons. And I have already taken Notice, that nothing is easier than to raise all manner of Garden Stuff.

The Winters here are longer and more severe than in *England*; but fine Stone Quarries and Lime Stones are very frequent, with which Materials, and Timber, they may build Houses which shall be Proof against

the Weather without ; and here are Coals enough to make them as warm as they please within.

With Regard to Trade ; besides all those Branches which the Country has in common with *New-England*, and which are too well known to require a particular Recital, there are three Kinds of Fish which are chiefly to be met with in the Gulf of *St. Lawrence*, and especially in that Part of it which borders on the Coast of *Nova Scotia*. I mean the *Porpoise*, the *Sea-Wolf* and the *Sea-Cow*. The two first yields great Quantities of a very fine Oil, fit both for Lamps and the Leather-Dresser : While fresh, it may be used in the Kitchen ; it will keep long clean, has no bad Smell, and leaves no Filth at the Bottom of the Barrel. The Skin of the *White Porpoise*, dressed and shaved thin enough to be transparent, makes very good Coats and Breeches, which are said to be Musket-proof. Some of these Skins are eighteen Foot long, to nine in Breadth, which nothing exceeds for covering the *Imperiale* of a Coach. The Skin of the *Sea-Wolf* has a Poil upon it, and is very proper for covering Trunks, &c. and as a Cover for Benches it will often out-last the Wood. When tanned it is like *Morocco* Leather, but has a stronger Grain, keeps longer fresh, and is not so apt to peel. Shoes and Boots may be made

made of it, which will not easily admit Water.

The *Sea-Cow* is particularly remarkable for her Teeth, two of which rising one on each Side from the Under-Jaw to the Length and Thickness of a Man's Arm, are very fine Ivory.

The *Pines* and *Pirrs*, and in general all the Timber in this Country, excels that of *New England*. The *Cod* is also much better in the Winter Season, when he may be taken in the Harbours, which are rarely froze. The Country affords in many Places good Brine for Salt, especially in the Marshes between *CbedabouËou* and *Tetamagouche*, by which Means the Fish will be cured at an easier Charge, and this Colony will be able, with proper Industry, to undersell the *French*, and make themselves Masters of the whole Trade of the *Streights*.

Let me add to this, that as the Profits of this Trade will finally center in *Great Britain*, by increasing the Consumption of the Woollen Manufactory, they may be assured of receiving all suitable Encouragement from their *Mother-Kingdom*.

To conclude, if, besides all that has been said, we consider his Majesty's Goodness in granting the Settlers Possessions by Land sufficient for their Welfare, and his Resolution to secure to them the quiet Enjoyment of  
these

these Possessions, by establishing a Civil Government, and raising Forts and Garrisons in proper Parts of the Country, as also to protect them in the Prosecution of their Trade by Sea, there is all the Reason in the World to expect, that in a few Years *Nova Scotia* will become a flourishing and opulent Colony.

S I N D



# ERRATA.

- p. 32. l. 12. instead of *Porc-epic*, &c. read *Poitou*, which lies before the Mouth of the Bay of *Port-epis*.
- p. 33. l. ult. after *Espagnols* add since called *Baye des Cbaleurs*.
- p. 39. l. 25. instead of a Year read two Years.
- p. 43. l. 25. instead of this is one Instance, read these are some Instances.
- p. 48. l. 16. instead of which, read when.
- ibid. l. 25. instead of River read Rivers.
- p. 53. l. 3. instead of Solemnity read Magnificence.
- p. 55. l. 5. instead of 1727 read 1627.
- p. 56. l. 1. instead of Knighthood read a Baronet of *Nova Scotia*.
- ibid. l. 8. instead of Mr. *La Tour* read the new created Baronet.
- ibid. l. 24. instead of Knighthood read the new Order of Baronets.
- p. 61. l. 26. instead of 1632, after the War of *Rochelle* read 1629, upon the taking of *Rochelle* by the *French*.
- p. 64. l. 6. after the Word ascribed add to.
- p. 65. l. 6. dele there.
- ibid. l. 10. after Commandant read who.
- p. 75. l. 2. for *rule* read *ruse*.











